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FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM SPAIN, AUSTRIA

PY101505 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1213 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 May (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo returned shortly after 0830 this morning to Argentina after paying official visits to Spain and Austria.

In Spain the foreign minister made preparations for the trip which President Raul Alfonsin will make next month. During his stay Caputo met with King Juan Carlos, Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, and Foreign Minister Fernando Moran.

In Austria he met with the highest-ranking government officials and discussed the international status quo and bilateral trade with ministers and secretaries of state.

Caputo, who made a brief stopover in Paris on his return trip, made no statements upon arriving at Ezeiza International Airport.

PRELIMINARY TALK HELD ON U.S. ARMS PURCHASE

PY101831 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1705 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpts] Cordoba, 10 May -- Defense Secretary Horacio Jaunarena today admitted that there was "a preliminary talk" about the purchase of arms from the United States with the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, General Charles Gabriel, who is visiting Argentina at this time. Jaunarena made this revelation in this city while accompanying Gen Gabriel, who made a tour of the local Air Force unit.

The defense secretary anticipated that "the talks (on arms purchases) will continue" in the next few days, but he stressed that Gen Gabriel's visit "basically responds to the mutual desire for a rapprochement after the conflictive situation which developed between the United States and Argentina." Jaunarena thus alluded to the problems which came up after the United States openly supported Great Britain during the Malvinas war.

Newspaper reports say that Gen Gabriel will undertake negotiations for an agreement with Argentina for the transfer of U.S. technology regarding armament.

CGT 'STRONGLY REPUDIATES' INTEREST RATE HIKE

PY110330 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0022 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 May (TELAM) -- The CGT [General Confederation of Labor] today strongly repudiated the unilateral decision by international banks to increase interest rates by 0.5 points. It added that this arbitrary measure, which will directly affect Argentina's foreign debt, will only inflict more hunger and misery on the Argentine people.

In an official communique signed by Saul Ubaldini, one of the CGT secretaries general, the labor organization says that the alternative is to do away with this economic policy implemented from abroad, which tries to condemn us forever, and to seek national liberation for the benefit of all the Argentine people.

The communique says that "nothing and no one will be able to quell our protest because it has the overpowering strength of popular causes which are invincible when expressed in an organized manner." It adds that workers will continue to struggle against hunger and unemployment in the country and plundering from abroad. The communique concludes by warning that the people's hunger cannot be negotiated and by saying that workers are in favor of liberation and against dependence.

LA PRENSA COMPLIES WITH GOVERNMENT WARNING

PY101510 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2354 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 May (DYN) -- The Labor Ministry has reported that personnel of the newspaper LA PRENSA have complied with a government warning and decided to return to work, while the enterprise has been ordered to lift the suspensions imposed on the newspaper personnel, thus channeling toward dialogue the conflict which has prevented the printing of the newspaper for the past 5 days. The report was released after a meeting held today between workers and management representatives and members of the National Board of the Labor Ministry's Labor Relations Department.

The ministerial communique states that on the record of proceedings the newspaper personnel have shown proof that they comply with the government warning.

Negotiations between the two parties with Labor Ministry officials will continue on Wednesday, 16 May, at 1600.

RAILROAD WORKERS END STRIKE, RESUME ACTIVITIES

PY101905 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Train services returned to normal early this morning. We recall that a strike interrupted this service yesterday in demand for better salaries imposed by unions that group the railroad workers. The railway lines Roca, Sarmiento, Urquiza, Mitre, San Martin, and Belgrano resumed normal activities early this morning.

The scope of the measure will be studied at a meeting to be held among leaders of the four unions, who reported that the stoppage was held throughout the country.

JUDGE'S RULING ON PERON CASE TERMED UNFOUNDED

PY101626 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0015 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 9 May (TELAM) -- Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez today stated that Federal Judge Norberto Angel Giletta's ruling is legally unfounded. Giletta has ruled unconstitutional the government decree dropping the lawsuit against Isabel Peron.

Another high-ranking government source has reported that an appeal against Giletta's ruling will be filed within the next few hours.

GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY PRESSING WEEKLY LA VERDAD

PY110055 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] LA VERDAD, a weekly published by Dr Carlos Ponce Sanjines, has, to a certain extent, upset government officials, who have decided to take action against the weekly's (?publisher) and other columnists through the Interior Ministry.

This report was supplied to Radio Panamericana by Abel Ayoroa Argandona, an attorney and an MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement] leader.

[Begin Ayoroa recording] Reports by the persons concerned have reached the offices of the national political committee of the MNR saying that on orders issued by the Interior Ministry the attorney general's office has reportedly requested the arrest of the publisher of the weekly LA VERDAD, Carlos Ponce Sanjines, and other fellow MNR party members who have written and signed articles in this weekly, namely Dr Guillermo (Ayegar), Luis (Antezana), Alfonso de Ugarte, and others. [end recording]

Therefore this deals, as it can be seen, with a denunciation that deserves to be fully clarified, should it be true that the government is not acting in keeping with the rights in force within a democratic process.

Meanwhile, the MNR has already taken some steps, steps which are explained by Ayoroa as follows:

[Begin Ayoroa recording] The MNR, as is only natural, is undertaking a few steps before the interior minister and the criminal district prosecutor, Dr Federico Alvarez Plata and Dr Mario Rivero [Bollan], respectively, so that they respect the right to freely voice beliefs and the rights that are granted to a press medium which is circulating legally. At any rate, the gentlemen who have written and signed articles in this weekly will assume their responsibility. However, in this case, taking advantage of their power, they are issuing warrants of arrest in an unexpected manner and [words indistinct]. [end recording]

These were the statements made by the MNR leader Abel Ayoroa Argandona concerning certain pressures that are reportedly being exerted on the publisher and reporters of the weekly LA VERDAD through the Interior Ministry.

OILWORKERS FEDERATION WANTS CONTRACTS REVISED

PY101649 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpts] In compliance with COB [Bolivian Labor Federation] recommendations, the Bolivian Oilworkers Federation is making efforts aimed at having the Bolivian Government revise the contracts signed with transnational enterprises, such as Occidental and Tesoro Oil Company. The COB has in the past denounced that these enterprises are committing crimes that cannot be tolerated any further because they are dodging taxes and diverting the royalties that legitimately belong to the Bolivian people. The oilworkers are now stating that their efforts are being ignored by government officials.

German Becerra, secretary for conflicts of the Bolivian Oilworkers Federation, is now making the pertinent denunciation.

[Begin Becerra recording] We are committed to the COB, to the Bolivian people, and to the situation the country is in because of the economic measures and the country's inflation itself, in order to save the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB]. Otherwise, we will be turned into subsidiaries of those enterprises by buying their products at international prices, but the hydrocarbons minister, through orders issued from his office, has refused to accept such conditions. [end recording]

But the denunciation does not end there. The oilworkers are convinced that the U.S. ambassador in Bolivia, Edwin Corr, is behind all this. Likewise, Corr would be also making efforts to favor the mentioned companies.

[Begin Becerra recording] [In progress] [Words indistinct] In the end, the workers have lost because they have been manipulated -- their liberty has been questioned. We know that Mr Corr, who is manipulating the workers instead of the mentioned transnationals. is behind all this. All that we will be requesting is that the laws be complied with. We will be asking through the Foreign Ministry that the deeds that were denounced by the COB in the sense that these gentlemen have (?reportedly) paid commissions Bolivian Government officials so that these are as would be awarded to them and our [word indistinct] contracts. [end recording]

COB CALLS FOR RESIGNATIONS, REJECTS STRIKE

PY110200 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 May 84

[Excerpts] The Bolivian Labor Federation's [COB] national meeting that ended at dawn today, decided to request the resignation of the economic cabinet members as a condition for resuming negotiations over the economic package issued by President Siles on 12 April.

The measure affects Finance Minister Flavio Machicado, Independent; Horst Grebe Lopez, Communist; and Ernesto Aranibar, and Freddy Justiniano of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left].

Furthermore radical union sectors failed in their attempt to get the COB to decree a general indefinite strike, a measure which according to analysts would have weakened the government to the point of endangering its stability.

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO PRONOUNCED IN GOOD HEALTH

PY101616 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpt] President Figueiredo spent 3 hours yesterday morning at the Sao Paulo Heart Institute undergoing a routine medical examination. The medical bulletin released afterward reported that President Figueiredo's general health is excellent. The head of the medical team who examined the president, Dr. Pinote, said that President Figueiredo will have to return to the Heart Institute in 3 months for another examination. President Figueiredo underwent clinical examination, laboratory tests, echocardiography, and electrocardiography.

FIGUEIREDO PUSHING 'CONSENSUS CANDIDATE' PLAN

PY102230 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 10 May 84 p 1

[Text] Sao Paulo (DAILY POST) -- Planalto Palace spokesman Carlos Atila said here Wednesday that President Joao Figueiredo agrees with Civil Cabinet Chief Leitao de Abreu's suggestion that the four PDS candidates to the presidency should renounce in favor of a consensus candidate. Atila spoke to the press at Congonhas Airport shortly before Figueiredo left for Brasilia after undergoiing a series of medical tests at Sao Paulo's Heart Institute Wednesday morning, in preparation for his upcoming trip to China and Japan. A medical bulletin said the results of the president's check-up show that his heart is "functioning normally."

Leitao has suggested that the best way to resolve the succession issue would be for Vice President Aureliano Chaves, Interior Minister Mario Andreazza, Senator Marco Maciel, and Federal Deputy Paulo Maluf to renounce their candidacies.

The civil cabinet chief said negotiations between the government and the opposition may result in the emergence of a fifth name to succeed Figueiredo and that he believed his suggestion was being studied by the PDS.

Chaves and Maciel announced last week they were prepared to renounce their candidacies if it helped solve the current political impasse. Andreazza and Maluf, on the other hand, have made it clear they do not intend to withdraw from the presidential race. "It is their right," said Leitao. "I cannot say however if their decision will hinder negotiations on President Figueiredo's amendment...We have to wait and see how the negotiations develop." Leitao said he was not suggesting "a complete renunciation, but rather a temporary withdrawal," noting that the "fifth name" could even be one of the four PDS candidates.

Figueiredo's amendment, which would re-establish direct elections but only in 1988, is currently being examined by a joint congressional committee and "it may take two or three months before any decisions are made," according to Atila. Several amendments to the government amendment are being prepared by the PDS "pro-direct elections group" and the opposition parties PMDB, PDT, PTB, and PT. Suggestions range from attaching a rider to Figueiredo's amendment which would re-establish direct relations this year to a two-year transition president.

Atila said "it is time the opposition yields a bit, because we (the government have already yielded enough," He stressed that the "government yielded when it accepted direct elections, included them in its redemocratization program, and reduced the presidential mandate from six to four years. Now it's the opposition's turn to yield and accept direct elections in 1988."

124 MUNICIPALITIES IN STATE OF EMERGENCY

PY101500 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpts] Some 2,600 homeless, 7 dead, impassable highways, and hundreds of destroyed homes are the results of rivers overflowing in Rio Grande do Sul, where a state of emergency has been declared in 124 municipalities.

SOVIET DELEGATION WANTS BALANCED TRADE

PY091340 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] The Soviet parliamentary delegation visiting Brasilia has made an appeal to economic ministers to study a formula to eliminate the $600-million bilateral trade deficit against the Soviet Union.

More on Trade Talks

PY101830 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 9 May 84 p 15

[Text] Brasilia -- the seven man Soviet parliamentary delegation met with Planning Minister Delfim Netto to discuss the possibility of obtaining balanced trade with Brazil. Presently the balance of trade is unfavorable to the Soviet Union at 1 to 5; that is, for every dollar Brazil imports from the USSR the Soviet Union imports 5 dollars from Brazil. Increasing the total volume of bilateral trade was suggested.

The Soviet delegation suggested that Brazil purchase more equipment and machinery, cooperate more in the energy area, and study the possibility of purchasing parts, technology, patents, and steel products from the Soviet Union.

ARSON AT SAO PAULO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

PY071755 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 7 May 84

[Text] Forty-eight hours after its inauguration, the office of Amnesty International in Sao Paulo was broken into and fire set to files, documents, and information literature. The police have no clues, but State Justice Secretary Jose Carlos Dias, who is one of the founders of the organization in Brazil, said that he has no doubt that it was a political attack, and that anybody who knows the ideals of Amnesty International can figure out that the attack was perpetrated by people who oppose democratization.

Amnesty International Secretary General Jose Zalaquett, who came to Brazil for the inauguration, was perplexed and said that this is the first time this happened anywhere in the world.

PINOCHET ON CHARGES, LAWYERS' QUESTIONS

PY101837 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0508 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Santiago, 9 May (EFE) -- "They have zeroed in on me," President Augusto Pinochet said today, talking about the charges brought against him by 24 politicians. The court has now appointed a judge to investigate the case.

"They have zeroed in on me, my family, and my brothers, trying to destroy everything that has been built in the course of a sober life, an honorable life, and I believe that this alone is reprehensible," General Pinochet said.

He thanked the intendant, mayors, and neighborhood leaders for their visit, and spoke about the charges brought against him before the Supreme Court on 4 May.

During the past few days, the president has been receiving support from Army generals, the government junta made up of the commanders in chief of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Carabineros, ministers of state, and other officials.

"This hurts me deeply because it is a sinister stain on one's honor," Gen Pinochet complained, "honor which I have tried to preserve at any cost." He added that those who charged him with alleged fraud against the treasury and of using his position for personal gain, charges which Appellate Judge Alberto Echavarria is investigating as of today, "do not even deserve to be called politicians." The group is led by Andres Zaldivar, president of the World Union of Christian Democrats.

Among the background material which the Appellate Court took into consideration to order an investigation and not reject the brief is a set of questions concerning the official explanation of Pinochet's actions which the lawyers for the politicians conveyed to the court. Here are some of these questions:

Is it rational to buy land from the state to give it back to the state, taking into account that that is whom it belonged to in the first place? The deal by which Colonel Ramon Castro Ivanovic purchased state-owned land at a lower price to sell it to the president at a higher price so that the latter could donate it to the state was done, according to the official explanation, so that the Army would take care of the security of the chief executive. The military would carry out this mission on land plots next to the house which the general has in El Melocoton on the slope of the Andes.

Could this be true, wonder the lawyers, when nowhere in the title to the land Castro purchased is it mentioned that he is acting with the abovementioned purpose in mind?

If Castro purchased the land following orders of the chief executive, what money did he use to pay for it? Did he use his own money or that of the state?

Why did he have to do it since in these cases the state merely has to expropriate the portions of land it needs?

If the chief executive was planning from the very beginning to donate the land, why did he do it only after all this information became public knowledge, despite the censorship in effect?

Judge Echavarria is currently trying to establish whether a crime has been committed as stated in the charges which the chief of state views as slanderous.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH UNITED STATES

PY101517 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 5 May 84 p 14

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle yesterday said that relations with the United States have not reached their best level because of the negative influence of the labor sector, human rights organizations, and leftist democratic politicians.

Del Valle made an exposition of our country's relations with the rest of the world during a lecture on "Foreign Policy Guidelines" which he delivered at the main hall of the Superior Investigations Institute marking the seventh anniversary of this institute of police studies. Investigations Director General Fernando Paredes Pizarro, retired, commanders, and prefects of the civilian police attended the lecture.

Regarding the administration of President Ronald Reagan, the foreign minister noted that the U.S. Government has accepted the authoritarian government of General Pinochet upon the condition that it restores full democracy.

ECONOMY MINISTER GRANTED INCREASED POWER

PY110230 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 9 May 84 p 7

[Text] Article 1 of Decree No 88 published in the Official Gazette on 8 May bestows wide-ranging responsibilities upon [Economy] Minister Modesto Collados for reactivating the country. The article reads: "It will be the economy, development, and reconstruction minister's responsibility to coordinate and reconcile the different tasks of state secretariats in the government's economic and financial policies on fostering production and exports."

In six articles this decree establishes all the goals for the development of the national economy and it authorizes the proposal of policies, legal rules, and measures leading to achieving a rationalization of the different ministries which are involved in economic affairs, namely: the Ministries of Economy, Finance, Mines, Agriculture, Public Works, Housing, Health, and Labor.

The decree also establishes the minister's duties regarding ODEPLAN [National Planning Office], the National Energy Commission, the National Development Corporation, and the service and state companies.

The decree also establishes that the economy minister must see to the enforcement of economic policies, plans, programs, and measures that have been implemented. He is authorized to request the aforementioned companies to supply information or background material that he believes necessary for fulfilling his duties. The economy minister will also coordinate those programs that the ministry has established for this year as well as those that will be programmed in the future.

It is also established that in view of its importance, this decree must be handled with priority precedence.

COLLADOS ON ECONOMIC PLANS, INTEREST RATE HIKE

PY102320 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpts] There is total unity among cabinet ministers, we request one another's opinion on everything we do, and there is no mistrust. This assertion has been made by Economy Minister Collados even though journalists had not asked him anything in this regard.

The minister later referred to what he called overlapping functions, which he plans to eliminate.

He said that the public sector is overgrown.

[Begin Collados recording] The structure is too complex and overgrown. One idea consists of slowly and gradually, once again I ask journalists to include the word 'gradually' in everything I say, simplifying this structure that is extremely complex. And one way to simplify this is by eliminating overlapping and diversified functions. Things can really be made much simpler is this way. [end recording]

Collados was asked his opinion of a study on inflation made by the U.S. Embassy which says that the Chilean Government's expectations in this regard are not realistic.

[Begin Collados recording] This refers to externally produced errors. Probably the U.S. Embassy knows more about these errors than we do. However, these errors are uncontrollable because they are caused by powers beyond one's control. This is how the law defines things that are caused by powers beyond our control. Obviously, in this case externally produced errors are uncontrollable. The hike in international interest rates we talked about yesterday is really monstrous, really monstrous, and this makes one think that creditors will also have to consider whether it is worthwhile to continue indefinitely to increase interest rates. [end recording]

CNT CALLS NATIONWIDE ANTIGOVERNMENT PROTEST

WA111145 Rome IPS in English 9 May 84

[By Enrique Martini]

[Text] Santiago, May 9 (IPS) -- Chile's National Workers' Command (CNT), a trade union confederation formed to oppose the military government, today called a nationwide day of protest May 11 "for democracy, and against hunger, violence, and corruption."

The CNT called on Chileans to protest the government in peaceful ways, by keeping children home from school, not making purchases, not transacting business with state offices, and by holding student and worker meetings to discuss a possible general strike. The government opponents also instructed protestors to hold neighborhood meetings and to beat on pots and pans, honk car horns, blow whistles, and play musical instruments from 8:00 to 8:30 pm on May 11.

CNT leaders noted that the actions will mark one year since the first in a series of national protest days to demand that the military regime step down for an elected government. The military government, under President Gen Augusto Pinochet, seized power in a violent 1973 coup, and intends to remain in office until 1989.

The "National Day of Protest" in May 1983 was called by Rodolfo Seguel, the leader of the Copper Workers' Confederation (CTC) who later formed the CNT to increase pressure on the government. Seguel was jailed for his part in the first protest day, leading copper workers to go out on strike. The state-run copper mines then fired many employees and the government arrested their top union leaders.

In subsequent protest days staged monthly throughout 1983, government security forces took a hard stand against demonstrators, killing more than 50 people, including children, wounding hundreds, and arresting thousands.

CNT leaders noted in a press conference today that in the May 1983 demonstrations, "the Chilean people started on the path of peaceful protests, as the only means of expressing their rejection to the dictatorship."

"These historic days have allowed the people and the workers to partially reverse the situation," the CNT statement said, "but none of the country's main problems has been resolved."

"On the contrary, the political, economic, social, and moral crisis deepens by the day, dragging large sectors of the country into desperation and violence," the CNT asserted.

The opposition political parties, grouped in the Democratic Alliance, the Popular Democratic Movement, and an alliance of left-wing groups, support the May 11 protest day. Human rights, community, student, and other organizations have also announced their backing for the actions.

Jose Ruiz Di Giorgio, who is termporarily replacing Seguel as CNT president while the latter is in Geneva for an International Labor Organization (ILO) meeting, said that all political and social groups which "support the return to democracy" have been invited to a meeting May 11 in Santiago. The CNT has called on members of all political groups to attend the meeting, to be held at the headquarters of the National Union of State Employees (ANEF).

Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa told reporters today that "the protests do not help resolve the problems, and those hurt most are the workers, the humble people, because vandalism and terrorism are unleashed and with this we cannot build anything in Chile."

"I greatly regret that we continue creating the spectacle of an absolutely uncivilized country with these protests," he added.

Government officials indicated that the military might take "extraordinary measures" such as a curfew in response to the May 11 protest.

The CNT statement said, "The memory of the victims of repression will give the people added force to protest." The protest day is against "the increase in unemployment and stagnation of domestic production, the corruption which has invaded the highest levels of national life, press censorship, the threats, the persecution, the arbitrary arrests, and the violence by police and security forces against politicians, unionists, students, and slum residents," the CNT said.

"We Chileans demand full application of a state of law and civil liberties...respect for human dignity and rights, an end to exile, freedom of expression, and congretation, and an equitable and independent judicial branch," the statement added.

Representatives of several antigovernment youth groups announced a "mobilization plan" today for the May 11 protests. They said they will sponsor actions in various universities throughout Chile and called on all young people to meet at the National Library in Santiago at noon on May 11 for a march to the Federal Court chambers.

The student leaders demanded "an end to (state) intervention in the universities, an end to the attacks on neighborhoods which result in deaths, the designation of a roving minister to investigate police violence against citizens, the right to work, and the prompt return to democracy."

Silva Rejects Violence

PY110153 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpts] The president of the Radical Party has rejected any kind of terrorist action during the so-called peaceful protest tomorrow. Enrique Silva Cimma emphatically stated that agitators should not take advantage of tomorrow's protest day to carry out violent and vandalistic actions.

Silva Cimma also disclosed the creation of a political group called Democratic Socialist Federation [Federacion Socialista Democratica] made up of the Radical Party and the Popular Socialist Union of the Social Democracy Party.

BOMB ATTACKS CONTINUE IN, AROUND SANTIAGO

PY101508 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] More than five explosive devices have been detonated by terrorists who have the intention of creating chaos.

Police sources have indicated that the terrorists exploded one device on Highway 68, between Santiago and Valparaiso; another at 4700 Jose Perez St; a third at 2300 [0300 [0300 GMT] on the corner of Principal and General Gambino Streets in the Conchamil District; a fourth at 0100 [0500 GMT] this morning on the corner of Angel Guarello and Monga Alferez Streets in the San Miguel District; and a fifth at 0300 [0700 GMT] this morning at the railway corssing on Gandarillas in the Santiago District, affecting a bus shelter. Carabineros are investigating the damage and outcome of these terrorist attacks.

Seminary Hit

PY101639 Paris AFP in Spanish 1437 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 10 May (AFP) -- A Santiago Franciscan seminary was half destroyed today when incendiary bombs were thrown at it by unidentified persons, according to information provided by priests in charge of the seminary located in the central city neighborhood.

Also, nine dynamite attacks in different locations around Santiago were reported by the police. The street explosions caused only minor damage to lamp posts and the front of a bus terminal.

The flames at the Franciscan seminary damaged the facilities where a school and mess hall for poor children are located.

Students Hurt; Bridge Damaged

PY101091 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpts] Three students were wounded last night in terrorist attacks. The most serious attack took place on Salvador Gutierrez Street in Quinta Normal, where a bomb by terrorist criminals wounded (Marcos Severo Lopez), 20, and (Mario Suarez Saavedra), 18.

Two devices exploded at 5220 Recoleta Avenue. They had been placed against street lamp posts.

A terrorist dynamite attack destroyed a pillar of the La Araucana railway bridge, located near [name indistinct] in Concepcion. Austhorities have had to suspend the train service through the place [word indistinct] until noon tomorrow. The shockwave of the explosion caused damage to three houses, but there were no casualties.

A terrorist commando, in a synchronized action, assaulted and set fire to three buses of the Verde Mar line that were in a terminal located in (Ropan Alto), Valparaiso. The group was made up of three men and a woman.

BRIEFS

VISIT OF BRITISH DELEGATIONS -- A commercial delegation of the Association of British Coal Equipment Companies headed by Ron Buckley arrived yesterday in Santiago to offer coal mining equipment. The delegation will visit Santiago and Concepcion and will later travel to Peru. Similarly, a delegation of the Trade and Industry Chamber of Brimingham headed by T.S, Sprake of Balfour Beatty is expected to arrive today. The delegation will analyze with Chilean industrial businessmen matters such as the designing of equipment for hydroelectric plants and the possibility of manufacturing the following products under license in Chile: school materials, chemical and pharmaceutical products, car parts, farm machinery, decorated tin products for house use, and hardward products. [Text] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 31 Mar 84 p 5 C PY]

1983 FISCAL DEFICIT -- Comptroller General OsvaldoIturriaga has reported that the 1983 fiscal deficit amounted to 56 million pesos. The deficit was financed with net domestic and foreign loans totaling 44,725,000,000 pesos plus 11,558,000,000 pesos from public funds. Public income totaled 478,103,600,000 pesos and public expenditures 534,386,400,000 pesos. However, public firms had a surplus of 10,144,000,000 pesos and superior education institutions had a deficit of 491 million pesos. The surplus of public firms and the deficit of education institutions were not taken into account. [Summary] [Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 13 Apr 84 p 14 A PY]

ARMY PURSUING GUERRILLAS AFTER ATTACK ON TOWN

PA101827 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Cali -- Troops of the 3d Army Division and the Valle police are carrying out a spectacular pursuit of the group of guerrillas of the FARC-M19 [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-19 April Movement] alliance that this morning seized the town of Miranda in Cauca Department.

The 3d Army Division headquartered in Cali reported that helicopter gunships a few minutes ago began to participate in the hunt for the insurgents. During this morning's seizure of Miranda, a soldier of the (Codafi) Battalion of Palmira was killed. An undetermined number of guerrillas was also killed.

The counterinsurgency operations are being commanded by Colonel (Eduardo Torres Meza), a 3d Army Division spokesman has confirmed.

The attack on Miranda occurs a few weeks after the seizure of Corinto which left several guerrillas and soldiers dead. Miranda is located 45 km from Cali and has a population of more than 50,000, most of whom are farmers.

TERRORISTS BOMB, KILL IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

EPL Kills 13 in Uraba

PA100450 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 May 84 p 2 A

[Report by Gustavo Ramirez]

[Text] Medellin, 3 May -- Rural commands of the self-styled Popular Liberation Army, EPL, have murdered eight peasants in the past 2 days in the region of Uraba, Antonio Valencia Duque, Antioquia Department police chief, reported today.

With these new killings, the number of peasants that have been killed in the past 7 days in the region of Uraba has risen to 13. Last week, five persons were shot to death in Turbo and Apartado. The last of these killings took place last Tuesday in the village El Limon, El Tres Corregimiento, Turbo, where according to an official report, a group of armed men shot John Alberto Osorio Z., 16, Adalberto Manuel Padilla, 18, and Alvaro Manuel Villadiego, 22, in cold blood.

Police chief Posado Valencia Duque said that the EPL was responsible for the deaths of these three men. At 1300 the next day three men and a women shot to death an entire family, Marcelo Arango, 47, his wife Graciela Posada, and Felipe Arango, 10.

Graciela Posada was pregnant, Police Chief Valencia Duque reported. They were all shot with pistols and revolvers.

Bomb Injures Three in Medellin

PA101322 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Medellin -- Eerly this morning a car bomb exploded near the Girardot Battalion facilities, in northeastern Medellin, slightly injuring three persons.

The explosive had been planted in the car with registration No KC 8849, which had been stolen from its owner, Viviana Gonzales, on 4 May. According to police, the vehicle, turned into a mortal device, had been left by the terrorists in front of building No 3750, on 67th Street, near a wall located backing the Girardot Battalion facilities. The [word indistinct] vehicle blew up into pieces and the explosion alarmed the large residential area. Mrs Marlene Piedrahita, her husband, and a daughter were slightly injured.

This is the first time in the history of the city that elements interested in disturbing peace have used a car bomb. The members of the security bodies that operate in Medellin are trying to establish the identity and motives of the perpetrators of this attempt. As of 0715 no subversive organization had claimed credit for this action.

Explosions Reported in Bogota

PA101311 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Bogota -- The country's capital was shocked this morning by a number of terrorist attempts, mostly perpetrated in front of military facilities. The police command, Bogota Division, has officially announced that there were no casualties.

A car, presumably loaded with dynamite sticks, exploded in the freeway leading to El Dorado International Airport, in front of the National Administrative Center, where the National Defense Ministry operates. A (?Luv) station wagon, with what seems to have been a false license plate No 4879, blew up into thousands of pieces without damaging the public offices that operate near the site of the explosion.

A second car bomb, a Renault with registration No FU 5656, went off near the Jose Maria Cordoba Military School for Cadets in Bogota's northwestern end. According to police, the explosion caused only material damages.

Two other smaller devices also exploded; one near the police substation in (Troncuelito), the other near the Third Police Station in [place indistinct], in the southern part of the city. Again, there were no casualties.

It has also been learned that the F-2's anti-explosive group managed to deactivate two dynamite bombs. One of them, a very powerful bomb, had been camouflaged inside a (?tuba) that had been abandoned a few meters away from the main entrance to the Presidential Guard Battalion, in the Plazoleta de los Martires, on 10th Avenue and 10th Street. The second deactivated device had been planted near the Police Officers' Club, on 13th Avenue and 40th Street.

Special police units are currently conducting various operations to identify and capture those responsible for these terrorist activities, which began shortly before 0100.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH ORDERS CLOSURE OF TV CHANNEL

PY090123 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] The executive branch has ordered a 3-day closure of Saeta TV Channel 10. The measure was prompted by an interview with a politically outlawed citizen.

Saeta TV Channel 10 will resume transmissions on Friday with its regular programs.

It is worthwhile to note that the censored interview was with Dr Gugo Batalla of List No 99 [leftist faction of the Broad Front].

Broadcasters Protest Closures

PY101643 Paris AFP in Spanish 1417 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 10 May (AFP) -- The recent closure of weekly publications and a television channel seem to indicate an intention to hinder the return to democracy in Uruguay, the Inter-American Broadcasting Association (AIR) has affirmed.

In a wire addressed to President Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez, retired, AIR said that the 3-day closure of Saeta Television Channel 10 for political reasons not only affects the station, but seriously limits the rights of that channel's viewing public.

In its telegram, AIR points out that the situation of freedom of expression in Uruguay is a reason for growing concern not only by the international community of private radio broadcasters, but also by other press organizations and human rights institutions.

BANK EMPLOYEE QUESTIONED, RELEASED UNHARMED

PY101619 Paris AFP in Spanish 1341 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Maldonado, Uruguay, 10 May (AFP) -- Bank employee Alberto Gerfau Silveira, whose arrest last Sunday was reported by the human rights commission, recovered his freedom on Wednesday after being questioned at military units, according to information disclosed here today.

Although Gerfau, 42, refused to supply any details about his arrest, he said that he was properly treated. Reliable sources have indicated that the arrest was prompted by a report which the Armed Forces received involving Gerfau in subversive activities, a charge which the interrogation proved to be false.

TOP DEBT NEGOTIATOR DISCUSSES TALKS, STRATEGY

WA111450 Rome IPS in English 9 May 84

[Text] Caracas, May 9 (IPS) -- Venezuela is prepared to include the 15 months in which it has made no capital repayments on its foreign debt in the grace period allowed under a new refinancing arrangement, top debt negotiator Carlos Rangel said here today. Rangel is currently engaged in talks with Venezuela's creditors on a rescheduling agreement for the country's $32 billion foreign debt, half of which is in the form of short-term loans.

The fourth biggest debtor nation in Latin America, Venezuela halted capital repayments on April 1 last year, securing a series of postponements. The latest one, arranged earlier this month, put off capital payments for another 90 days, until July 31. Rangel said he was confident that a rescheduling agreement would be reached by then. The 15 months over which only interest had been paid, he added, would be included in the grace period accorded under such an agreement.

Meanwhile, the new government of President Jaime Lusinchi has presented its preliminary economic forecast for the 1984-89 period to its creditors, predicting an average 2.3 percent annual economic growth rate. The forecast is said to put inflation this year at 22 percent, falling to seven percent by 1989, and to predict a gradual reunification of the four-tier exchange rate for the bolivar, at 7.5 bolivars to the U.S. dollar. This would be about half the bolivar's current value on the open market.

Venezuelan economic planners see a slight rise in the production of oil -- the country's biggest foreign exchange earner -- from 1.7 million barrels per day (BDP) to 2.07 million BDP over the next five years.

These predictions, and the government's economic adjustment plan, will be on the agenda when the International Monetary Fund sends its annual inspection team to Caracas in the next few weeks. But Venezuela has said it has no intention of asking for an IMF loan, confident that its $11 billion in international reserves and steady oil income of around $14.5 billion a year are sufficient to make such a loan unnecessary.

Rangel said today that his government has drawn up a four-stage strategy for renegotiating its foreign debt with creditor banks, starting with general talks on the overall terms and conditions of a rescheduling. Discussions would then move to strictly financial details, such as repayment periods, interest rates, service charges, and grace periods. Once these are finalized, Venezuela's "debt commission" would visit the world's major money centers, explaining the deal that has been reached, and setting out the government's economic strategy. At the same time, the negotiations would sort out the legal aspects of the 2,000 contracts to be signed with Venezuela's 450 creditor banks.

DE LA MADRID COMMENTS ON TRIP TO CANADA

FL100150 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2347 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Mexico City, 9 May (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid today said that there is a wonderful willingness on the part of Canada to continue the improvement and deepening of all aspects of bilateral relations, including political, economic, commercial, and cultural relations.

During a brief press conference at the end of his 4-day trip, the president said that there were agreements with Canada in the fields of trade, finance, and tourism. He also emphasized the great future of Mexican-Canadian relations. He added that it is important to point out that there are many similarities in our foreign policies at the national level including matters of peace, disarmament, North-South dialogue, as well as in regional matters at the continental level.

President Miguel de la Madrid said that in his talks with Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and other Canadian officials, great importance was given to the regional conflict in Central America.

He said: I am very satisfied and stimulated. I can say to my compatriots that in Canada we have a close, trustworthy friend, with great potential for reciprocal cooperation.

GUATEMALAN ENVOY: NOTE TO DENY ROLE IN KILLINGS

FL102218 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1928 GMT 8 May 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 8 May (NOTIMEX) -- Guatemalan Ambassador to Mexico Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro has said here that the Guatemalan Government has already given its answer to the Mexican protest about the attack on 30 April against Guatemalan refugees in southern Chiapas. Nevertheless, he explained that he does not know the text and the terms of the message, he only knows that his country's government has repeatedly denied that the attackers were members of the Armed Forces.

He also said that the Government of Guatemala has insisted that an investigation take place on both sides of the border to determine who was responsible for the killing of six Guatemalan refugees in the Chupadero Camp, to punish the guilty parties.

Mendez Montenegro said that in a short time, the official reply would be announced and he insisted: The attackers are not members of the Guatemalan Army because we are not interested in creating problems with the Mexican Government, with whom we have excellent relations.

The Mexican Foreign Ministry reported that as of last night, it had not heard from the Guatemalan Government about the events.

ENERGY MINISTER SAYS NO INCREASE IN OIL EXPORTS

FL102052 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2330 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 9 May (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's secretary of energy, mines, and parastatal industry, Francisco Labastida Ochoa, today said that Mexico will not increase the volume of oil production and export, in order to contribute to the maintenance of price equilibrium in the international market. Interviewed after the opening of the 19th meeting of the Latin American Petroleum Industry Mutual Aid Association [ARPEL], he said that new petroleum deposits in the State of Tabasco (in the southeastern part of the country) would prolong Mexico's role as a petroleum supplier and they will be used as reserves.

U.S. DIPLOMAT ACCUSED OF INTERVENTIONIST ACTIONS

PA110220 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0106 GMT 11 May 84

[Report by Danilo Caballero]

[Excerpts] Listeners of Radio Nacional, this is Danilo Caballero. At this moment we believe it is appropriate to give you an urgent news report. A high-ranking U.S. diplomat this afternoon convoked a meeting with the U.S. news media's representatives in Panama to reveal alleged irregularities in the vote-counting process following Sunday's presidential elections and to link the Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama to the violent events which took place Monday night, an action which is a clear intervention in Panama's internal affairs.

The high-ranking diplomat from the U.S. Embassy in Panama demanded that the U.S. journalists abstain from revealing their source and threatened to deny this if they revealed his name in any journalistic report. During the meeting, which was held on the 2d floor of the Gusromares Building, where the U.S. Information Agency has its main offices, the high-ranking U.S. diplomat met with all the U.S news media representatives who had come to cover the details of Sunday's elections in this country.

No correspondent of the foreign agencies based in Panama attended the meeting; some of them are Panamanians and others are of different nationalities. In an open contradiction to the attitude of U.S. Ambassador Everett Briggs, who had previously told the international news media that it was impossible to commit fraud in Sunday's elections, the high-ranking diplomat asserted he had evidence that fraud had been committed during the vote-counting process of the circuits established by the Electoral Tribunal. This high-ranking diplomat could be either William Pryce or Ashley Hewitt, and we let Ambassador Briggs know this so that he can adopt the necessary measures, or we shall see what steps are taken by the Panamanian Government regarding this new stepped-up interventionist attitude against Panamanian sovereignty. We repeat the names: William Pryce or Ashley Hewitt.

In addition to exercising his interventionist attitude, the U.S. diplomat added that he did not have proof about the participation of the Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama in the destabilizing events which took place on Monday night in front of the Legislative Palace and surrounding areas. However, the U.S. diplomat suggested that a friend had commented that he had evidence that would link members of the Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama to Monday night's violence, which left a toll of 1 dead and 36 wounded.

Latin American journalists who infiltrated the meeting and gave the information to Radio Nacional de Panama asserted that the high-ranking U.S. diplomat posted in Panama mocked reports about a direct U.S. military intervention in Panamanian territory. Radio Nacional de Panama asks: What right or privilege does a U.S. Embassy official in Panama have to give his opinion and give alleged evidence about a fraud committed during Sunday's elections when -- contrary to what has been said by this interventionist Gringo diplomat -- international observers who supervised the elections declared they were exemplary for their purity and liberty for all the peoples in the hemisphere and the world.

This clear intervention in Panamanian internal affairs by a Gringo diplomat is linked, no doubt, to the campaign orchestrated by the U.S. news media, which is preparing the U.S. people to make them believe that the backwards candidate was the winner or elections which were officially won -- according to the pure elections that were held -- by the candidate of the National Democratic Unity, Nicolas Ardito Barletta. Radio Nacional de Panama had previously reported in an editorial U.S. news media plans and tricks against Panama.

We wish to report that we have now ascertained that the diplomat who met with U.S. news media representatives is Mr Ashley Hewitt. Ashley Hewitt was the U.S. Embassy official who convoked a meeting with U.S. news media representatives. It was Ashley Hewitt, and we denounce him through Radio Nacional de Panama's microphones. We believe that the case should be left in U.S. Ambassador Everett Briggs' hands, and he can decide what to do with his official before the Panamanian Government has to do something.

VOTE COUNTING CONTINUES' ARDITO LEADING

25 Precincts Counted

PA101845 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1746 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] With six election certificates left to be counted, Nicolas Ardito Barletta of the National Democratic Union [UNADE] leads Arnulfo Arias Madrid of the Democratic Opposition Alliance [ADO] by 13,536 votes. 25 precinct election certificates have been counted so far. UNADE has a total of 173,072 and the ADO has 159,536 votes. Nine precinct election certificates have been challenged so far. They are those of Precincts 10.1, 10.2, 8.1, 4.6, 6.2, 8.8, 8.5, and 8.6 of San Miguelito District.

Circuit 4-1 Results

PA102126 [Editorial Report] Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 2058 GMT on 10 May carried the following unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections in Circuit 4-1 (David):

Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	15,134
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	18,211
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	624
Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	142
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	64
Carlos del Cid	People's Party	173
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	112

Results From 35 Circuits; 4-4

PA102236 [Editorial Report] Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish at 2129 GMT on 10 May carried the following unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections for 35 Electoral Circuits:

Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	180,568
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	166,117
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	7,894
Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	7,263
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	2,278
Carlos del Cid	People's Party	2,669
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	1,108

Panama Domestic Service in Spanish at 2145 GMT gave the following electoral results from Circuit 4-4 (Cerro, Iglesias, Chiriqui):

Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	7,100
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	1,163
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	52
Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	110
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	63
Carlos del Cid	People's Party	55
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	71

37 Circuits, Other Results

PA102319 [Editorial Report] Panama City RPC Television in Spanish at 2238 GMT on 10 May carried the following unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections covering 37 Election Circuits:

Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	268,724
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	255,016

Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish at 2238 GMT on 10 May carried the following unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections from Circuit 9-2:

Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	1,307
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	1,149
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	4
Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	5
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	8
Carlos del Cid	People's Party	161
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	8

Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 2305 GMT on 10 May carried the following unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections from Circuit 4-3:

Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	5,828
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	9,492
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	236
Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	50
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	58
Carlos del Cid	People's Party	33
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	33

Results From Circuit 5-1

PA110013 [Editorial Report] Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 2310 GMT on 10 May carried the following unofficial election results for the 6 May presidential elections from Circuit 5-1:

Presidential Candidate	Party	Votes
Nicolas Ardito Barletta	National Democratic Union	1,755
Arnulfo Arias Madrid	Democratic Opposition Alliance	912
Ruben Dario Paredes	Popular Nationalist Party	5

Carlos Ivan Zuniga	Popular Action Party	6
Jose Renan Esquivel Oses	United People's Front	12
Carlos del Cid	People's Party	45
Ricardo Barria	Workers Socialist Party	5

ELECTORAL OFFICIALS COMMENT ON RETURNS

Official Explains Delay

PA101211 Panama City RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 May 84

[Interview with Cesar Quintero, president of the Electoral Tribunal, by unidentified reporters -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Quintero] What is the gist of the problem? Two things. First, the silly challenges, which we had foreseen. Over this same station I said that after these elections we would receive an outpouring of challenges, which is the Panamanian custom, because every candidate who loses, challenges. The parties challenge the precincts in which they lost, others challenge to find out what is happening, and all this slows down the process.

In Bocas del Toro the elections were very peaceful, straightforward, and honest. But as soon as the results were known, a losing candidate challenged the 35 precincts where he lost. Another challenged I don't know how many. Therefore, the process is paralyzed there.

In Sona there is a similar problem. The same happens in other places. This is what is delaying the election results. This is a traditional vice that has always plagued Panama.

All of San Miguelito has been challenged, all voting booths. More than 90,000 voters are registered in San Miguelito. I do not know how many voted, but all the precincts have been challenged there. The challenge is a request for complete nullification of San Miguelito. Why? For political reasons, because someone lost. In the same fashion they are challenging the elections in other places. They have been challenged in district 603 of Herrera Province, which includes Ocu, Las Minas and Santa Maria. This is one of the causes of the delay. Another cause, and here the Electoral Tribunal has a certain responsibility, because I am not here to shirk responsibility: Look, these are the results for the precincts and the same results cover the president, vice president and the legislators. Today we are convinced, somewhat late, that it would have been better to have one ticket for president and vice president and a separate ticket for the legislators. What happened? The vote count for president and vice president was done well everywhere. This is done, and very clear. However, the precinct officials sent these results to the Electoral Circuit Vote Counting Boards, and these 40 boards cannot send them to the National Vote Counting Board due to the problem with the legislators. This is where the problem lies.

[Reporter] Now that all these challenges have been made to Sunday's elections, will this delay the process in the proportion of the number of challenges?

[Quintero] The challenges will help to delay the results. This is why in Panama, compared to other countries, it takes so long to learn the results of presidential elections, and more so for the legislators. The challenges are the traditional vice and I have been repeating this since I took office.

[Reporter] Does not the large number of political parties also contribute to the negative situation we are seeing?

[Quintero] I have warned about the large number of political parties since the beginning. I said that although it is true that democracy cannot function without parties, the proliferation of parties makes the democracies sick.

[Reporter] You met with President Jorge Illueca yesterday. Were you given outlines, pressured, or what?

[Quintero] Nothing. He told us very early that he wanted us to meet because he wanted to know what was happening and how it could be solved. He was evidently worried about the previous night's events. He felt grief over the blood that was spilled. He asked to see the three magistrates and the president and secretary of the National Vote Counting Board to find out what was happening. He abstained completely from giving us any orders. He gave us a few pointers, but no orders. He just wanted to know what the delay was about, what the problems were. I told him the same thing I am telling you.

Votes Challenged

PA101644 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 May 84 p 1

[By Franklin Bosquez D'Giovanni]

[Text] The presidents of the Electoral Tribunal and the National Vote Counting Board, Cesar A. Quintero and Ismael Garcia, decided yesterday that for as long as voting results are being challenged, "no candidate will be proclaimed" winner. Six attorneys for the Democratic Opposition Alliance, ADO, Julio Linares, Cesar Pereira Burgos, Jorge Valdes, Carlos Lucas Lopez, Tomas Herrera, and Mario Galindo, last night met with Cesar Quintero. The meeting took place in an environment of alarm resulting from news about the alleged placing of a bomb in the main building of the Electoral Tribunal on Ecuador Avenue, between Cuba and Justo Arosemena Avenues in Panama City.

Julio Linares, spokesman for the group of attorneys, noted: "We are concerned about one fact: The counting has been completed in only a few precincts. Most of them have not finished counting because of the challenges. The records being sent to the National Vote Counting Board are not including challenged votes." Linares added that since the government candidate has challenged many votes for Dr Arnulfo Arias, "it is possible that when the counting is completed [at the National Vote Counting Board], Nicolas Ardito Barletta and not Dr Arias Madrid could appear as the winner and there could be the idea that such a result is final and definite."

Linares said: "Quintero told us that for the sake of safeguarding the good image of the Electoral Tribunal, this should be clarified and that he will propose to his colleagues (Rolando Murgas and Yolanda Pulice de Rodriguez) that a statement be made in this regard."

Linares added that it must be clearly established that the data issued by the National Vote Counting Board will not be final because it is not complete.

Quintero said that yesterday afternoon he was visited by the president of the National Vote Counting Board who is concerned, among other things, with the request by ADO attorneys. ADO yesterday issued a communique reiterating that "in spite of the scandalous electoral fraud and the shameful buying of votes to favor the government candidate, on 6 May the Panamanian people elected Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid as their president."

The attorneys said that the Electoral Circuit records they have seen show "without a doubt" that the advantage secured by Arias Madrid "is so big that they supersede the unfavorable returns that, according to some claims, were producted in remote regions, where, instead of elections, a coarse ignoring of the people's will occurred."

They charged that "the government candidate and his accomplices have prepared a post-elections fraud in the National Vote Counting Board. At this board, the government's majority, at the service of the government's candidate, whimsically refuses to count presidential votes on the basis of records from each poll box and wants to consider only the spoiled records put out by precinct Vote Counting Boards" that have "arbitrarily challenged" and eliminated results from many polling places that were favorable to Arias Madrid.

The attorneys stated that all efforts to reach an agreement with the government candidate to speed up the presidential vote counting and spare the country a climate of uncertainty have been fruitless. "The Tinajitas candidate does not want the counting of individual votes, but of the fraudulent votes prepared in the precinct Vote Counting Boards" the attorneys noted.

The ADO, to assure purity in the vote counting process, has announced that "at a ceremony open to the people and to which the diplomatic corps, the local international news media, labor groups and associations, civic clubs, and churches have been invited and that can be attended by anyone, it will start counting the votes appearing in the records from each elections booth, excluding no one."

In conclusion the attorneys said: "Once the counting has been completed, the country will see a confirmation of the certainty that on the 6 May elections, ADO, without papers, or radio stations, or television stations, or money, or tricks, secured the clear support of the majority of the Panamanian people and that Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid has been elected president of the Republic for the fourth time."

Member Resigns; Count Resumes

PA102056 Paris AFP in Spanish 2019 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Panama City, 10 May (AFP) -- Felix Dormoil, spokesman for the National Vote Counting Board, this afternoon submitted his irrevocable resignation, alleging "irregularities" in the vote-counting process of last Sunday's elections.

When leaving the premises of the board, Dormoil said that "it seems that my vote and the votes of the Panamanian people are worthless." Dormoil affirmed that the process has not followed its normal course "due to the politicking of the representatives of the various parties."

Meanwhile, the board resumed the count after declaring a recess at midnight, although the results are not yet known. The latest figures released by the Board gave a slight advantage to the candidate of the Democratic National Union (UNADE, progovernment), Nicolas Ardito Barletta (103,225 valid and challenged votes) over his opponent Arnulfo Arias (100,475), of the Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADO).

BOTH UNADE, PDC PROCLAIM VICTORY FOR CANDIDATES

UNADE Motorcade To Celebrate

PA101618 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1608 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Starting at 1500 today, the different parties that make up the National Democratic Union, UNADE, will begin a great victory motorcade from the El Dorado shopping center. UNADE invites all its supporters to be there at 1500 so that the motorcade can depart towards the UNADE headquarters on Espana Avenue where it will be personally received by Nicolas Ardito Barletta.

PDC Seeks Support For 'Winner'

PA101957 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 May 84 p 3 B

[Paid advertisement by the Christian Democratic Party, PDC]

[Excerpt] Despite the shameless use of state resources to influence the decisions made by the citizens, despite the use of the millions stolen from the people to buy and almost monopolize the communications media, despite the coercion exercised on public employees, despite the fraudulent use of multiple cedulas and signed blank credentials to accumulate fraudulent votes, despite the premeditated exclusion of thousands of citizens who favored the opposition from the lists of voters, despite the purchases of cedulas and votes, despite all of this, DR ARNULFO ARIAS MADRID IS THE LEGITIMATE WINNER OF THE ELECTIONS HELD ON 6 MAY. [capitalized passage as published]

The proclamations of the alleged victory of official candidate Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta are based on the challenge of those places where Dr Arias obtained a clear lead. Using the majority of officials and representatives it has in the electoral organizations, the government intends to mock the people's will by not counting all the votes.

Instead of counting the votes listed in the 3,902 tally sheets prepared at the voting places, an attempt is being made to count only the votes that the 40 Vote Counting Boards of Electoral Circuits have acknowledged as valid after challenging numerous places where Dr Arias Madrid won.

In a desperate attempt to intimidate the citizens, the regime has sent its armed commands to shoot without risk at defenseless citizens who want all the votes counted. This is what happened on 7 May in the Legislative Palace. Jose Angel Gutierrez was killed and 46 other citizens were injured by these commands with the complicity of the Defense Forces that were present in the headquarters of the National Vote Counting Board and neighboring areas.

The progovernment communications media are falsely accusing the PDC in connection with these incidents, for the useless purpose of concealing the escalation of violence planned by the regime to intimidate the citizens and sponsor the fraud.

Eyewitnesses, photographs, and televised images disseminated both here and abroad have provided reliable evidence of the organized progovernment violence. We have videotaped copies of this evidence.

The PDC warns that by not counting all the votes cast, the official sector seeks to impose its candidate by force, despite the fact that he lost the elections. We demand that all the votes be counted, tally sheet by tally sheet. We condemn the use of violence by the PRD commands and urge the Defense Forces to take their hands out of the electoral process.

We exhort the Panamanian people to actively support those who received the majority vote and are therefore the winners of the 6 May elections: Dr Arnulfo Arias, Carlos Rodriguez, Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon, and the opposition legislators.

WARNING SHOTS FIRED AT ARIAS RESIDENCE

PA101523 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 May 84 p 1

[Text] Arnulfo Arias' neighbors and bodyguards have told LA PRENSA reporters that the Panamenist leader's residence was fired on last night by unidentified attackers.

According to them, nine men traveling in two automobiles attacked the Arias residence located at 65th street, in the Carrasquilla neighborhood, between 2130 and 2200 last night.

One of the bodyguards reported that about 20 shots were fired. He said that the residence was not hit because "the shots were aimed at the trees, in an apparent attempt to warn or threaten."

A next-door neighbor said that he was sitting in front of his home -- a few meters away from the Arias residence -- when he saw a green Lada and a gray Toyota Cresida go by. The latter bore license plate SD-29379. Democratic Opposition Alliance leaders decided after the shooting last night to transfer Arnulfo Arias "to a safer place."

OPPOSITION PAPER CONDEMNS ATTACK ON ERSA OFFICE

PA101625 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 May 84 p 1 A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] The facilities of Editora Renovacion [ERSA] were shot at yesterday. We protest this attempt with the same energy that we have protested those perpetrated against our coworkers at the hands of the armed thugs of UNADE [National Democratic Union]. Shots were also fired yesterday at the house of Dr Arnulfo Arias, a deplorable incident from any standpoint, especially in view of the currently tense political situation. All these incidents, added to the very tragic ones of Monday, when Jose Angel Gutierrez Vega lost his life and 40 other people were injured have the public very worried especially because the so-called Defense Forces have behaved with inconceivable passivity while bands of progovernment gunmen walked through the streets shooting at peaceful citizens without running any risk. The Defense Forces must fulfill their obligation of disarming all gangsters and restoring the public peace and the security of the citizens in order to prevent a repetition of these violent incidents and further bloodshed. Nothing would be easier for them, because they know very well who these thugs are and where they obtained the weapons with which they now attack with impunity the honest people who are protesting the scandalous electoral fraud committed by UNADE. In the specific case of ERSA, we categorically condemn the attack, even though when we were attacked by the thugs of the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] and the then National Guard -- and we sustained personal injuries and heavy material losses -- our ERSA colleagues unconditionally endorsed the official viewpoint that these were self-inflicted attacks.

GROUPS CONDEMN DISTURBANCES, CALL FOR ACTION

UNADE Protests

PA101526 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 9 May 84 p 11

[Communique issued by the National Democratic Union, UNADE, in Panama City on 7 May]

[Text] We, the members of the UNADE presidential ticket and the presidents of the political parties that comprise UNADE, wish to publicly express our deep regret over and total disagreement with the incidents that occurred this afternoon in Justo Arosemena Legislative Palace.

During the entire development of this political campaign we have constantly called for prudence and serenity to achieve the tranquillity of the Panamanian people and strengthen our democratic system. Yesterday, in view of the incidents mentioned above, we called for for the maintenance of the calm and prudence needed to bolster democracy and peace in our country while the official vote-counting process is completed.

The violent incidents that occurred this afternoon fill us with deep concern. For this reason we express our feelings of grief to those suffering the irreparable loss of a loved one or suffering over the injuries sustained by relatives in the course of these incidents.

We exhort our noble and generous people to avoid the provocations of those who seek to destabilize the country through dramatic actions that cause an upsurge of passions and whose results we all regret.

We deem it prudent to ask the Electoral Tribunal and the members of the National Vote Counting Board to speed up the vote-counting process so that our people can have as soon as possible the final results of their will as expressed in last Sunday's election.

Panama, 7 May 1984
Nicolas Ardito Barletta
Eric Arturo Delvalle
Roderick Esquivel
Rosamerica de Vasquez
Liberal Party
Berta T. de Arosemena
Democratic Revolutionary Pary
Carlos Eleta
Labor Party
Jose B. Cardenas
Republican Party
Miguel A. Montiel
Popular Broad Front Party
Luis Gaspar Suarez
Panamenist Party

Calls for Civic Demonstration

PA101511 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 10 May 84 p 5 A

[Paid advertisement by the National Democratic Union]

[Text] Panamanians: Tonight from 2000 to 2030, honk your horn to celebrate Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta's victory. If you want to turn your lights off, please do so, and thanks for conserving energy.

Action Group Calls for Protest

PA101507 Panama City YA in Spanish 10 May 84 p 2

[Text] As a civic protest against fraud, groups of the so-called National Independent Unity for Democratic Action distributed leaflets throughout Panama City yesterday asking citizens to participate in an action scheduled for tonight. According to this organization, Panamanians are asked to turn off lights, honk their horns, and bang pots and pans at 2000 tonight.

COMMENTARY VIEWS REAGAN SPEECH, C.A. POLICY

PA102227 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 May 84 p 10 A

[Commentary by Osvaldo Velasquez: "About President Reagan's Speech"]

[Text] In his speech last night, U.S. President Ronald Reagan expressed deep concern over the threat of Soviet infiltration in Central America. We share that justified concern for its implications with regard to the violation of human rights in the communist countries.

For the last 16 years our country has been under the harsh control of a military dictatorship that ignores such concepts as dignity, morality, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. One of the U.S. observers at the electoral farce on 6 May told us that in addition to the canal, "Panama is now known for having the most corrupt Armed Forces in this hemisphere, perhaps in the entire world." The kind of government that rules us despotically today is the best seed for communist infiltration. Russia wants to use Nicaragua and El Salvador as stepping stones to the Panama Canal and the oil wells of Venezuela and Mexico.

We are very disappointed over the foreign policy of the United States toward Central America and the Caribbean, as it does not take into consideration the fact that the absence of democracy, due to the presence of any kind of dictatorship or corrupt government system that ignores human rights, is the best means to encourage Soviet infiltration. History proves this: General Fulgencio Batista's corrupt military dictatorship in Cuba was the seed of Castro's dictatorship. In Nicaragua it was the dictatorship of the Somozas. Those who always had the sympathy of the United States led to the establishment of the Sandinist government, which today, with Cuba, constitutes the most serious problem for U.S. security. If the United States is intent on fighting international Soviet infiltration, it must acknowledge the threat posed by the military dictatorships.

Unfortunately, Panama today is the El Salvador of yesterday; let us hope it does not become tomorrow the El Salvador of today.

COSTA RICA

MONGE DENIES REPORTS ON U.S. MANEUVERS, AID

PA101648 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] We fail to understand how U.S. Government officials can be part of a campaign to discredit our country, President Luis Alberto Monge has said in referring to a statement attributed to the U.S. secretary of defense. President Monge said he had no knowledge of the military aid for Costa Rica and maneuvers between the U.S. Army and the Costa Rican Civil Guard.

Monge added: We Costa Ricans are perplexed and wonder how it can be possible that a top and highly qualified U.S. Government official, such as Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, can make such a statement that contributes to the campaign to discredit our country.

Monge went on: We don't know how this could be carried out. It's unbelievable. We have never talked about joint maneuvers by our Civil Guard.

This statement could be very negative and harmful for us in Europe, as these countries are going to believe it is true. THE NEW YORK TIMES has also echoed a series of statements against us, but I refuse to believe that there is something crooked in all this, which is negative for us and which we will have to face even though we are not responsible for the situation, President Monge said.

I have no knowledge about military equipment near the Nicaraguan border, Monge said. Regarding international dispatches stating that the Nicaraguan Government has installed heavy artillery and tanks in Cibalsa, close to the Costa Rican border, President Monge said he knows nothing about this.

He reiterated that Costa Ricans can rest assured that Costa Rica's territory is under our control. He added that he would try to investigate these reports, but that so far he had not been informed about Soviet-made tanks and cannons stationed in that area.

Costa Ricans can be sure that their government is zealously protecting our sovereignty, President Monge said, and he urged all Costa Ricans not to be mislead by speculations, rumors, and instigations. He added that all Costa Ricans can rest assured that the government is a zealous guardian of our sovereignty, and that its actions are guided by its fervent love for Costa Rica.

No one should fear that those in charge of the government would do anything that would harm our country's dignity and sovereignty. However, we should not fall into the position adopted by others who, in my opinion, are acting against Costa Rican interests, Monge stressed.

We have learned that some individuals have been acting wrongly. This is against our country, and against Costa Ricans, since fomenting unrest and instigating war could lead to an irreversible confrontation, which would be harmful for Costa Rica. In this respect, I understand taht some media mentioned an invasion a few days ago. I don't know if this report was well-meaning, or if it was ill-intended. We are skeptical and concerned about these attitudes, which are contrary to our interests, President Monge concluded.

FOREIGN MINISTER: NICARAGUA RELATIONS 'NORMAL'

PA102153 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpt] The foreign minister of Costa Rica, this morning referring to the critical state of relations with Nicaragua, said that all is normal. It is expected that the Sandinist regime will react in its characteristic fashion to yesterday's expulsion of Francisco Gutierrez Solis, an administrative official of the Nicaraguan Embassy who signed several paid advertisements which the Costa Rican Government found offensive. Gutierrez Solis left Costa Rica today. [passage indistinct]

INTERIOR MINISTER DISMISSES NICARAGUAN CHARGES

PA102206 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] According to Interior Minister Dr Alfonso Carro, following the charges that have circulated at the United Nations (?in connection with) the protest filed by the Nicaraguan Government, our ambassador, (Fernando Zumbado), has sent a report indicating that these charges are a repetition of others filed in the past by the same Sandinist government officials. The major problem is that they claim that the attacks perpetrated against them result from a conspiracy among contras, CIA officials or agents, and the Costa Rican Government.

With their protest, the Sandinists presented two letters, one of them from the Government Ministry. According to Dr Carro, the letters in question prove nothing, one of them is from the government Ministry and the other from the Security Ministry. However, according to the Nicaraguans, these documents demonstrate Costa Rica's involvement in the matters they are denouncing.

The truth is, they prove nothing. The document taken from the Government Ministry is an internal document on internal communications. By providing this document they are admitting that they have an espionage and penetration network operating within the Costa Rican Government, the minister added. It is evident, he went on, that the Sand Sandinists have infiltrated the state's institutions for subversive purposes and to destabilize the Costa Rican Government. Their purpose now is to steal documents that they might in some way use to make a scandal that will be reflected in the international press. this would not be so grave were it not being echoed by some Costa Ricans, such as the lefrist party representatives. This is the small favor that Manuel Mora [chairman of the Popular Vanguard Party] has done for Costa Rica by announcing in Managua that the attacks perpetrated by the Sandinist Army have been fabricated by Costa Ricans.

EL SALVADOR

ELECTORAL COUNCIL FIGURES SHOW DUARTE LEADING

PA110336 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0319 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] Salvadoran people, the Central Electoral Council greets you and brings you the latest results obtained from our computer center at 2055, some 15-20 minutes ago. We have finished processing 8 departments and have obtained the following results: Christian Democratic Party, PDC, 533,771 votes; Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, 423,380 votes.

This represents a difference of 110,391 votes, favoring the Christian Democratic Party. The percentages are as follows: PDC, 55.76 percent and ARENA, 44.23 percent. We have now counted 62 percent of the ballot boxes installed throughout the country on 6 May, which represents 3,527 ballot boxes in San Vicente, San Salvador, La Libertad, Sonsonate, La Paz, Chalatenango, Ahuachapan, and Cabanas Departments.

LE MONDE INTERVIEWS DUARTE ON FUTURE POLICIES

PM091441 Paris LE MONDE in French 9 May 84 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Salvadoran Christian Democratic leader Jose Napoleon Duarte by Marcel Niedergang in San Salvador on 6 May]

[Text] San Salvador -- Mr Jose Napoleon Duarte is as strong as an ox. Several months of a nerve-racking campaign have not undermined this 58-year-old man's combativeness or determination. However, very specific death threats have forced him to surround himself with a particularly tough guard and not to appear in public the week preceding the 6 May election.

On the wall of his office was a religious picture and the stylized fish which is the Salvadoran Christian Democratic Party's emblem. "It is in memory of the first Christians, who hid in the catacombs," he said. "Like them, I have experienced a clandestine existence and persecution. I am accustomed to threats and dangers. I will experience others. I am calm, but I am like everyone else. I am sometimes afraid. Everyone in this country is afraid, even the soldiers. This country is polarized. There is an extreme left and an extreme right, and both are mentally subversive. However, it is absolutely vital to restore security for all Salvadorans."

Question: How do you plan to tackle the "death squads?"

Answer: I will pursue them. Violence must be stamped out. I will appoint a special commission to investigate the crimes, especially the murder of Monsignor Romero. This will not be an easy task, because it is a question of ending a political war which has been going on for 4 years. It is impossible to end a war just like that, overnight. You need a comprehensive strategy for tackling this situation.

Question: Don't you think that the virulence of the campaign will leave its mark?

Answer: Undoubtedly, and this worries me. The members of the National Republican Alliance [ARENA] (Footnote 1) (Extreme right-wing organization led by Major D'Aubuisson) called me a "communist." I am polite. I call him "Mr D'Aubuisson." The extreme right in this country is a Nazi and racist movement. They spared me after the first round, but that was merely tactics. In El Salvador, accusing someone of being a communist amounts to condemning him to death. That gives an idea of the hatred that has built up.

The guerrillas in the mountains are possessed by hatred too. This upsurge of hatred is very serious. It is the most serious thing in the country at present.

Question: Do you intend to appeal to the insurgents?

Answer: This must be carefully considered. If you are talking of negotiations on the basis of the 21 points drawn up by the Farabundo Marti Front (Footnote 2) (the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, or FMLN, groups together the five Salvadoran guerrilla organizations), I say not, categorically. Negotiation is out of the question. But if you are thinking of seeking ways of enabling the guerrillas to lay down their arms and join the legal political struggle, I say yes. But be careful, we must first effectively establish what I call the bases of general security; that will take time. And we will have to win many people over to the idea of this search for a solution. It is a great challenge.

Question: Have you been helped by the United States?

Answer: Definitely not. I even heard that before the first round the Americans preferred Chechi Guerrero (Footnote 3) (Mr Francisco Guerrero was the leader of the National Conciliation Party -- a right-wing party formed by the previous military regime -- during the first round of the presidential election on 25 March).

40,000 Dead

Question: But the United States refused D'Aubuisson an entry visa?

Answer: Yes, but that was well before the elections. I, too, have been refused visas, especially in France. Nonetheless, this visa affair may have played a role. In any case, ARENA exploited it in a nationalist way, as an affront to Salvadoran nationalism. They presented it as a victory. General conclusions should not be drawn from it. What is true is that foreign countries are interfering in our affairs. Francois Mitterrand has interfered in Salvadoran affairs too (Footnote 4) (reference to the Franco-Mexican declaration of 28 August 1981 recognizing the Farabundo Marti Front and the Revolutionary Democratic Front as "representative" Salvadoran "political forces").

Question: What do you think of the military's warning against any structural change in the Armed Forces?

Answer: My answer is that the Army is not a state within a state. The Constitution clearly defines the role of each, including that of the Armed Forces. A civilian who becomes president of the nation automatically becomes supreme head of the Armed Forces. He, too, becomes a member of the military. In 1981 the situation was different. I was only chief of the government junta.

Question: Have 4 years of war changed El Salvador?

Answer: Of course. The most serious thing is our victims, the 40,000 people who have been killed. It is a disaster. And there is also the spiral of hatred and violence. It is even more difficult to return to the previous situation with such a record. But I would also say that the people have gained a much greater political awareness.

Question: What do you mean by "communitarism?"

Answer: That comes from the term "community." The idea is to establish not only good-neighborly relations among men, but relations like those that exist within one family.

Question: Can there be confusion between communitarism and communism?

Answer: ARENA has seized on this semantic dispute to wage a campaign against us. According to reliable opinion polls, only 2 percent of the people have been deceived.

Question: What do you expect from Europe?

Answer: That it have a presence in America. Europe is the source of the Western world's culture. Europe can do a great deal for us at all levels -- economic, political, and cultural.

Question: And what do you expect from France?

Answer: That its ambassador be installed in San Salvador. That it have a presence too. I have heard vague reports that the French Government has altered its position somewhat, but I have no specific evidence.

VENCEREMOS CALLS DUARTE 'REAGAN'S PUPPET'

PA101849 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Duarte, the puppet, has already announced that he will go to the United States soon to receive direct orders from Ronald Reagan. [Word indistinct] Duarte has already begun to act like the puppet of imperialism that the electoral farce has placed at the head of the Salvadoran regime.

The official results of the farce have not even been released and Duarte and the Gringos have begun acting as the new government. Of course, it could not be otherwise for a president imposed by the Gringos: Duarte's first act as leader is a trip to the house of his masters in the United States to receive pertinent instructions on what he should do at this delicate time for the Reagan administration. In other words, Duarte will hear what he has to do to prepare the terrain for an imperialist intervention in our homeland.

The Gringos fulfilled their commitment with Duarte. They gave him their political support at the international and national level. The CIA financed the million-dollar electoral campaign. The Gringos devised, financed, and carried out, step by step, the electoral farce in order to guarantee Duarte's election. Now,Duarte must fulfill his part of the deal with the Gringos, which means that he has to promote and prepare conditions to pave the way for the imperialist intervention in the face of an imminent victory of the vanguard of the Salvadoran working class, the FMLN.

Duarte will go to the United States to receive orders which he will carry out with a servile attitude for the exclusive benefit of U.S. imperialism.

Madman Duarte will say that he is going to ask for economic aid. Madman Duarte will come up with all kinds of demagogic remarks as a Gringo (?pretext) [words indistinct] and in the end, more imperialist intervention which is the part of the pact with the Gringos that Duarte must fulfill now.

We had already warned: The electoral farce would only benefit the Gringos regardless of whoever became the next puppet, Duarte or D'Aubuisson; Madman Duarte was the puppet Reagan chose. Now, Reagan's puppet will travel to his master's house to thank him and receive direct orders from his boss.

GUATEMALA

ANDRADE GIVES MEXICAN ENVOY LETTER ON REFUGEES

PA102222 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran today sent a letter to Brigadier General Rafael Macedo Figueroa, the Mexican ambassador to Guatemala, stating that the Guatemalan Government deeply deplore the incident that occurred on 30 April 1984 at the El Chupadero refugee camp, in Chiapas State, in which six refugees were killed. Andrade said that our government deeply deplores the incident and that he considers the dead victims of a criminal act.

Andrade said that negotiations have begun between the two countries to solve the refugee problem with the cooperation of the Red Cross of both countries and the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to provide security guarantees for those persons who decide to return, respect for human rights, and an agreement to permit international supervision by the aforementioned organizations in Guatemalan territory, where they will be established in model towns.

Nevertheless, Andrade said that due to their desperate situation of defeat, subversive groups are trying to subsist politically at the international level, and one of their objectives is to (?disrupt) the situation of the refugees in Mexico in order to maintain a campaign of misinformation and harassment against Guatemala. Andrade added that since some refugees have tried to return home and others have actually returned, the subversives are using terror to keep these Guatemalan citizens in Mexico, which is the motive for the deaths of the six Guatemalans on 30 April when a group of men in uniform entered the refugee camp and murdered these persons.

Andrade said in the letter that the subversives are trying to disrupt relations between Guatemala and Mexico, which have recently reached a significant level. He added that the Guatemalan Government has carried out investigations and determined that the killers were members of subversive groups who are determined to prevent the return of our fellow citizens to Guatemala. He cited a local source as having published the news from Mexican sources, that is, security authorities of Chiapas State.

Andrade also said that the Guatemalan Government considers adequate the decision made by Mexico to transfer the refugee camps away from the Guatemalan border to prevent similar problems. He added that the new refugee camps should be established at a prudent distance from the border and that the Guatemalan Government reaffirms that a nation receiving refugees from another nation assumes the political and legal commitment to guarantee their security. He asked that the letter be forwarded to President Miguel de la Madrid.

RIGHTS CHIEF ON GOVERNMENT STORIES ON REFUGEES

FL091954 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1845 GMT 9 May 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 9 May (NOTIMEX) -- Jose Bernal, director of the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission, has said that Guatemala is attempting to justify its repressive actions by blaming subversive groups for the killing of refugees from that country in Mexico. Adding that the Government of Guatemala is contradicting itself in statements about the incident, he said that as recently as 20 April the Guatemalan ambassador in Washington, Federico Fahsen, said that the refugee camps here were hideouts for guerrillas. He contrasted that statement with that of the Guatemalan ambassador to Mexico, Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro, who said the killers were guerrillas disguised as soldiers. Bernal said it was impossible for those guerrilla groups to be destroying themselves.

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA SENDS D'ESCOTO PROTEST NOTE

PA101451 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 May 84

[Protest note issued by Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto in Tegucigalpa, on 9 May -- read by Herman Reyes, official of the Honduran Government Information Office]

[Text] I address Your Excellency to reject the concepts expressed in the protest note that you submitted to me yesterday in regard to the Sandinist Army's brutal downing with antiaircraft fire of a personnel-carrying, unarmed helicopter of the Honduran Air Force.

Your Excellency: With unconcealable purposes you claim that two military helicopters entered from Honduras. In fact, there was only one helicopter. It was transporting a technical commission whose mission was to conduct a construction inspection at the Amapala Naval Station.

You go on to say that once the helicopters were detected by the Nicaraguan Armed Forces, they proceeded to repel the craft, shooting one of them down.

It is really outrageous that the irresponsibility of the Sandinist Army led it to repel -- and by this I mean to violently launch an armed attack against -- an unarmed personnel-carrying helicopter.

If, as you claim, the craft was detected by your Armed Forces, there is absolutely no justification for having ignored the normal procedures for cases of this nature, to alert the craft and establish radio contact with it so that it would identify itself, or to instruct it to land.

It appears that on the contrary, when the helicopter was sighted, preparations were made to shoot it down. With apparent rejoicing, you state in your note that one of them was shot down. This unspeakable action, far from constituting an achievement, comes to further evidence of the Nicaraguan Government's total disrespect for the most basic procedures that should be followed in situations of this nature, particularly in view of the fact that the area in which the helicopter was shot down shows no indication in navigation charts of being a restricted, prohibited, or dangerous area.

This show of force and attitude of aggression on the part of the Nicaraguan Government contrasts with the conduct followed by the Honduran Government in a similar situation, when on 10 November 1980 a helicopter of the Sandinist Air Force, model H500C, violated Honduras' airspace and was ordered to land in the village of Buirure, in Choluteca Department. On that occasion, the following personnel were captured: Captain Roberto Sanchez, Ernesto Denebio, the pilot, and Carlos Moran Paladisine, a journalist. The helicopter and its crew were turned over to the Nicaraguan Government unharmed after filling in the due report.

Similarly, on 13 March 1982, the then-Air Force Colonel Walter Lopez Reyes, in his capacity as general commander of the Honduran Armed Forces, turned over to His Excellency Guillermo Suarez Rivas, plenipotentiary and special ambassador of Nicaragua to the Honduran Government, a Douglas C-47, DC-3 aircraft, painted with camouflage colors, and with registration number FAS-208, belonging to the Sandinist Air Force. The craft had landed under irregular circumstances at Tegucigalpa's Tocontin International Airport on the afternoon of Sunday, 7 March.

In view of the above-mentioned reasons, the Honduran Government repudiates this unspeakable action, which is a product of the Nicaraguan Government's war hysteria.

Similarly, I wish to reject the malicious statement expressed in Your Excellency's letter, that the tail of the aircraft carried the inscription U.S. Army Commander, and that this indicated that the helicopter belonged to the U.S. Armed Forces. There is no limit to your maliciousness. Even in such a painful situation there is an attempt to distort the truth and to take advantage of a criminal action. The helicopter carried the Honduran flag and showed Honduran Air Force registration number FAHUH1-B No 928, which Your Excellency cautiously omitted in your note.

Moreover, with perversity you attempt to cunningly establish a link between the helicopter's flight and alleged acts of aggression that have been attributed to Honduras, when all those aboard the unarmed craft were well-known Honduran citizens and even included distinguished university professors.

None of the Managua regime's schemes will be able to conceal the brutality of this action, nor the premeditation with which it was committed. This is the public explanation presented by the Honduran Government and which Your Excellency has demanded as a clarification.

The Honduran Government, as it reiterates its rejection of the concepts and inaccuracies contained in Your Excellency's note of 9 May, reaffirms its most energetic protest to the Nicaraguan Government, demanding due relief for this unjustifiable action.

Comments on Incident

PA101852 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] The Honduran Government today recalled our ambassador to Nicaragua.

Retired Colonel Isidro Tapia Martinez was instructed to return to Tegucigalpa and remain here until further notice. Col Tapia arrived in Honduras accompanying the bodies of the eight Hondurans who died in the treacherous attack by the Sandinist People's Army.

Our Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica has said that although diplomatic relations have not been broken, it could be the next step if Nicaragua does not change its warmongering attitude, which he described as criminal.

[Begin Paz Barnica recording] Well, the Honduran Government, through the Foreign Secretariat, and following instructions from President Roberto Suazo Cordova, has recalled our ambassador to Nicaragua, Col Isidro Tapia, who will remain here in Honduras. The Honduran charge d'affaires will be in charge of our diplomatic representation until further notice.

This measure is understandable in view of yesterday's criminal action in which eight Honduran citizens were killed. Hondurans have expressed their indignation over these actions carried out by the Nicaraguan Government, because they do not contribute to the climate of detente in Central America necessary to foment a peaceful, overall, and regional solution, as is being promoted by President Suazo Cordova's constitutional and democratic government.

Furthermore, we have informed the United Nations and the OAS about these measures, and of our protest before the Managua government, in a press communique. This document was delivered personally to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar today by our ambassador to the United Nations in New York.

We have also informed the Contadora Group foreign ministers and the presidents of these four countries, as well as the presidents and foreign ministers of Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala. I contacted each one of these foreign ministers last night to inform them about the situation, and they expressed their concern over these serious incidents that worsen the Central American crisis, for which the Nicaraguan Government is responsible.

At the Contadora Group negotiations, we have favored general disarmament, a reduction of weapons, and a halt to the arms buildup, which is a fundamental aspect to which the Nicaraguan Government is opposed. [end recording]

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ARRESTED OVER INCIDENT

WA111059 Rome IPS in English 9 May 84

[By Juan Ramon Duran]

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, May 9 (IPS) -- The Honduran Government arrested a group of air traffic controllers today as a first step in investigating the downing of a Honduran helicopter yesterday by Nicaraguan troops.

Nicaragua said the helicopter was shot down northeast of the Nicaraguan Port of Potosi, over Nicaraguan territorial waters in the Gulf of Fonseca and about seven miles from the maritime border with Honduras.

A military spokesman, who asked that he not be identified, said that five air traffic controllers at the Hernan Acosta Mejia Honduran Military Base near Tegucigalpa, the capital, have been placed under arrest. The arrests indicate that Honduran officers suspect the traffic controllers of erring in their instructions to the helicopter, which along with reported bad weather conditions in the Gulf, may have led the craft off its planned course and into Nicaraguan airspace. The military spokesman said the Honduran Government and Armed Forces are particularly upset over the incident because, he said, Nicaraguan planes have flown over Honduran territory in the past and have not been attacked.

The downing of the helicopter yesterday has increased Hondurans' fears about the possibility of war with Nicaragua, and provoked harsh charges against Nicaragua in most Honduran newspapers today. One major difference between the helicopter incident in January and that yesterday is the notable restraint with which Honduran Armed Forces Commander Gen Walter Lopez Reyes has reacted. Unlike his predecessor, Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, who responded to the January attack with virulent and belligerent charges against the Nicaraguans, Lopez Reyes has said only that the incident is under investigation, and noted that, according to Nicaragua, the helicopter was in Nicaraguan airspace.

NICARAGUA

WORLD BODIES HIT U.S. ACTIONS IN NICARAGUA

World Court Rules Against U.S.

NC101154 Paris AFP in English 1139 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] The Hague, May 10 (AFP) -- The International Court of Justice said here today the United States should cease any military or para-military action against Nicaragua immediately, including any mining of ports. The Court had earlier declared itself competent to consider a Nicaraguan complaint against the United States.

Unnamed U.S. State Department officials in Washington said last month that the mining of Nicaraguan ports by anti-government guerrillas had ceased. Officials also said the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had been involved. The U.S. Administration last month said it would not be bound by any ruling on Central America by the Court here for the next two years.

In a communique, the World Court said it rejected the request made by the United States that the case be removed from its list. It ordered the United States to "cease and refrain from any action restricting access to or from [words indistinct] in particular, the laying of mines," pending the Court's final decision.

It said Nicaragua's "right to sovereignty and to political independence [words indistinct] any other state of the region or of the world, should be fully respected." That meant Nicaragua "should not in [words indistinct] by any military and paramility activities which are prohibited by the principles of international law," and in particular the threatened use of force.

Nicaraguan Ambassador to The Hague Carlos Arguello told newsmen that the Court's ruling was "extremely important" and would "back all efforts for peace in the region." He said Washington was faced with a choice: "either it obeys or it disobeys and becomes an outlaw government."

U.S. State Department adviser Davis Robinson, in a brief statement to the press, said today's provisional emergency order was not the final ruling which would be issued at a later date. He refused any comment on the U.S. role in Nicaragua.

IMCO Condemns Mining

PA100439 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Delegates to the conference of the International Maritime Consultative Organization, IMCO, which is taking place in London, England, have condemned and repudiated the U.S. mining of Nicaraguan harbors. Yesterday, following the presentation of Nicaragua's charge against the United States for the mining of harbors and attacks on its territory, representatives of dozens of governments thanked the Nicaraguan people and Government before the IMCO for alerting the international community to the damages done to the country.

We will now broadcast exclusive statements for the "Extra Newscast" offered by Nicaraguan Ambassador to Britain Francisco D'Escoto, who presented the charge before the IMCO on the mining of the country's harbors carried out by the sinister CIA.

[Begin D'Escoto recording] Our presentation here, as in other international forums, has been widely accepted. The world [words indistinct] international, and that makes up most of the world, some of them reject the U.S. position; others not only reject it but cannot believe it. They believe that the United States must once again abide by international law. [end recording]

ORTEGA ADDRESSES NONALIGNED LABOR MINISTERS

PA101613 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0310 GMT 10 May 84

[Speech by Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at a meeting of Nonaligned Movement labor ministers at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] On behalf of the Nicaraguan people, I must express thanks for the speeches by Mr Babakr Rasul, Iraqi labor and social affairs minister, and Mr Veerendra Patil, Indian labor minister.

Messrs ministers, delegates, observers, and special guests: The hard-working and combative people of Nicaragua give a warm and fraternal welcome to the participants in this third conference of labor ministers of the nonaligned countries and other developing countries. They also express thanks for the confidence shown by holding this ministerial level meeting of the Nonaligned Countries Movement in Managua.

Foreign aid is not tied only to economic conditions, but to explicit political pressures to create active and passive accomplices in the escalation of imperialist wars. This is shown by greater imperialist aggressiveness against the African, Asian, and Arab peoples who have liberated themselves from the colonialist yoke, and those who struggle to liberate themselves from colonial domination, racism, apartheid, neocolonialism, and imperialist domination.

Thus, the current U.S. Administration tried to conceal its brutal invasion of Grenada under the neocolonial cover of an action by Caribbean countries. In Central America, Honduras and Costa Rica have become bases of aggression from which the mercenaries organized, financed, trained, and directed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency operate to attack Nicaragua.

In addition to the activities of the CIA forces and agents who operate from Honduras and Costa Rica, we have viewed with concern the increasingly more direct involvement of neighboring countries in the plans to isolate, block, and attack the Nicaraguan people.

Yesterday a North American helicopter manned by Honduran Army members, which was violating our airspace and which was on an espionage mission, was downed by our antiaircraft defense in the Cosiguina Peninsula. This is an area of frequent air and naval attacks against military and economic objectives. This helicopter had taken off from El Tigre Island along with another helicopter. That island is currently occupied by the U.S. Army, which has also occupied the Gulf of Fonseca with its warships.

Two days ago there was an attack on a Nicaraguan border post a few meters from a Costa Rican border post. On 3 May Costa Rican forces and members of the CIA army staged a self-attack in Costa Rica in front of the strategic customs post of Penas Blancas.

Just 2 hours ago President Ronald Reagan appealed to the U.S. Congress and people, asking for understanding and support for his warmongering policy toward Central America, which objectively can only be labeled as desperate. President Reagan wants the result of his speech tonight to be approval for funds requested to continue his interventionist policy in El Salvador and to continue financing CIA mercenaries, whom he again described as champions of freedom, in order to continue murdering our people, undermining our efforts, violating out territory, sabotaging our economy, and causing shortages of goods and medicines. In order to justify this request, President Reagan did nothing more than repeat a series of lies and absurd libel against our government, maliciously distorting our revolutionary process and our international policy.

I wish to take advantage of the inauguration of this important meeting of the Nonaligned Movement tonight to reiterate that regardless of what Mr Reagan would like the world to think, the Sandinist people's revolution is deeply democratic. We are advancing despite the aggressions of the current U.S. Administration, taking giant steps in the construction of the first authentic democracy in our country, something that was not attempted when Nicaragua was under Washington's control.

Our revolution is authentically popular, and it enjoys the political support of our people, much broader support than Mr Reagan could ever dream of in his own country. We are not and do not wish to be considered enemies of the United States because we defend our right to self-determination. Quite the contrary, we would like to have good relations with the United States, and proof of this are the specific and detailed proposals that we have presented to normalize our relations with them by means of solemn treaties, control mechanisms, and verification of fulfillment.

We have said over and over again that the Central American crisis has been artificially created by the Reagan administration, and that we are also willing to sign nonaggression and cooperation pacts with all the countries of the region within the framework of the negotiating process of Contadora. To this end we have also made concrete and detailed proposals. We have taken important steps, including steps in favor of those who have been involved in the counterrevolutionary action. This is shown by an amnesty policy that thousands of people have already accepted.

We do not believe in the export of revolutions and we have promised to always respect the right of self-determination of other peoples. We have called for the immediate conclusion of regional agreements to achieve the elimination and prevention of the future installation of foreign military bases in the region as well as the immediate withdrawal of all the foreign military advisers from the region. President Reagan knows all this very well because we have expressed it verbally and in writing through all his envoys who have visited Nicaragua. Nevertheless, Mr Reagan has chosen to ignore reality and presents to the U.S. Congress and people a number of lies and slanders that we hope will not do any good among his fellow citizens.

At the same time, Nicaragua reaffirms before you that neither accusations, aggression, blackmail, nor pressures will change Nicaragua's solemn commitment to the principles and objectives that guide the Nonaligned Countries Movement, particularly the defense of national independence and the peoples' right to self-determination. [applause]

D'ESCOTO ON COURT RULING, HELICOPTER INCIDENT

PA102118 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1802 GMT 10 May 84

[News conference by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga, and Foreign Ministry Legal Adviser Augusto Zamora in the Foreign Ministry in Managua; reporters not identified -- live]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified speaker] Good afternoon, journalists. You have been invited to this news conference because, as you know, the International Court at the Hague issued its decision this morning. It will be read by Companero Alejandro Bendana, no, excuse me, Augusto Zamora.

[Zamora] We will read the relevant part of the resolution of the ruling issued by the Court this morning. It states:

The court unanimously rejects the request made by the United States of America for the procedures [word indistinct] the demand presented by the Republic of Nicaragua on 9 April 1984 and the request presented by the Republic of Nicaragua, requesting interim protection measures be [words indistinct].

B. [as heard] Leaving pending its final decision on the procedures requested on 9 April 1984 by Nicaragua against the United States of America, it issues the following interim measures of protection:

1. Unanimously. The United States must cease and desist any action that restricts, blocks, or endangers access to and from Nicaraguan ports, particularly the placement of mines.

2. By 14 votes to 1. The right of the Republic of Nicaragua to its sovereignty and political independence as any other state of the region or the world must be fully respected and in no case must be harmed by any military or paramilitary activity that is prohibited by the principles of international law, particularly the principle that states must refrain from the use or threat of force against the territorial integrity and political independence of any state and the principle dealing with the obligation of not intervening in the area of the internal jurisdiction of a state, principles established in the UN and OAS Charters. In favor, President Elias, Vice President Camara, Judges Lachs, Morozov, Nagendra Singh, Ruda, Mosler, Oda, Al-Khani, Jennings, De Lacharriere, Mbaye, and Bedjaoui. Against, Judge Schwebel.

3. Unanimously. The U.S. and Nicaraguan Governments must each guarantee that no actions of any kind will be taken which might worsen or expand the dispute before the court.

4. Unanimously. The U.S. and Nicaraguan Governments must each guarantee that they will not take any action that could affect the rights of the other party with regard to the implementation of any decision that the Court could adopt with regard to the case.

C. Unanimously. Until the Court issues its final ruling on this case, it will keep the subjects covered by this order under constant revision.

D. Unanimously. It decides that the described procedures must first be directed [words indistinct] of the Court to hear of the case or dispute and the admissibility of the demand. It reserves the right to establish time limits on these described procedures and the subsequent procedure for subsequent decisions.

This was the resolution of the court ruling.

[Question] Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, the U.S. Administration [words indistinct] this decision of the International Court. Can you comment on the attitude of the U.S. Government?

[D'Escoto] I will be happy to. First of all, it is important that we stress that it is up to the Court and only the Court to decide whether it has competence or jurisdiction over a specific case. Nevertheless, we are seeing [words indistinct], a desperate attitude by the Reagan administration which at the same constitutes an admission of guilt.

[Question, in English] What do you think about U.S. policy in Central America in the larger context of President Reagan's veto of the [words indistinct]?

[D'Escoto, in English] First of all, it says clearly that this is not the definitive ruling of the Court. Remember, this is only the first round, where what was under consideration was whether to grant or not to grant Nicaragua's request for an interim measures vote.

I bet [words indistinct] what it is saying is that the United States must stop its illegal actions right away. It must respect Nicaragua's right to self-determination. It must cease its policy of using force and threatening to use more force in order to bend the political will of a sovereign and independent nation.

Obviously, the United States (?deludes) that Central America is not to be considered an area of independent nations because it says that no part of Central America or that the Central American struggle itself cannot be treated by the Court. This is really preposterous. It is unbelieveable. It is unrealistic.

If we talk about Central America as if it were almost a part of the United States, because I can see the United States [words indistinct] for example, of the Connolly Amendment, saying that the International Court cannot consider matters of internal domestic jurisdiction. But for the United States to tell the Court that it is not supposed to consider any case in Central America, is really the height of arrogance, and it is doing damage to that nation, and it must be embarrassing all the great people of the United States who really would definitely not like their country to be characterized as it is being characterized internationally and in the United States as well: as an international outlaw and a government that practices and foments state terrorism.

[Question indistinct]

[D'Escoto] The International Court of Justice does not have an army that can enforce its rulings or decisions. However, that does not mean that it does not have any power. I believe it has tremendous moral -- and of course -- legal power. As I said a moment ago, the United States has always prided itself on being a country that respects the law, and it has argued that it has an alleged superiority over other nations because it respected the compulsive jurisdiction of the Court.

If he now chooses to disregard or disobey the Court's ruling, President Reagan will be able to continue conducting his state terrorism and his international banditry, but not with the facade of sanctity and respect that he had attempted to maintain until now. I also believe this will force the U.S. people, who really believe in the rule of the law and in justice, to decide if they want to continue allowing the image of their country to be damaged in such a incisive way by the irresponsible actions of a citizen who presently happens to be their president.

[Question, in English] There is an ACAN-EFE report datelined in San Jose which indicates that the Costa Rican Security Council is concerned about the mobilization of 25,000 Nicaraguan troops on the Costa Rican border in preparation for an attack on the forces of Eden Pastora. Can you comment if this is true? Are we facing the danger of an escalation of war?

[D'Escoto, in English] Only a couple of minutes ago in response to another question I emphasized the role and the responsibility of the press in helping people, not only in the United States but in many countries, to know as objectively as possible the situation. Now we are facing in Costa Rica a very dangerous and possible reality which is the fact that as part of this overall offensive of the Central Intelligence Agency, they have managed to buy, as you must be aware, so many people involved with the communications media in Costa Rica. They engage repeatedly in this panic-fomenting campaign. I was talking only 3 days ago with the foreign minister, reflecting on this fact, and he said: I know what you mean; just now I heard over the radio that 2,000 Sandinist troops are marching along the highway on the way to San Jose. This is the irresponsible sort of thing that is happening.

You can be assured that we are, we have been, and we will continue to be ready to meet any offensive, any violation of the territorial integrity on the northern or southern border. If there is presently an offensive being awaited from the Costa Rican side [word indistinct] by the CIA mercenaries, I am really not aware of it. But you can be sure that never are our arms or our (?Army) going to be used against Costa Rica or against the sovereignty or territorial integrity of any country in Central America, or the world for that matter.

[Question, in English] Then it can be said that there is buildup of Nicaraguan troops on the southern border?

[D'Escoto, in English] I don't think there is anything abnormal or anything out of the ordinary. I could check on that afterwards but I am not really aware of [words indistinct] but I think nothing out of the ordinary is taking place in Sibalsa, Rivas Department.

[Question, in English] How are Honduran-Nicaraguan relations after the return of the Honduran ambassador to Tegucigalpa?

[D'Escoto, in English] Well, you know how I evaluate that step. It is my feeling that the authorities in Honduras, particularly the military authorities, fully understand what happened. If they didn't, their attitude in the several conversations that we have held with them since the downing of the helicopter would be different, but I believe that this reaction of the Honduran Government must be understood within the framework of an effort to mitigate the responsibility of the Honduran Government in the eyes of its own people, not only in the latest incident that resulted in the death of eight Honduran brothers, but also in everything that has been happening, because the United States truly is controlling it. Politically and militarily, they have occupied Honduras.

[Question] Father D'Escoto, according to an ACAN-EFE dispatch we have here, while commenting on the campaign under way since yesterday in Honduras in the wake of the downing of the helicopter, Mr Paz Barnica denied that there had been two Honduran helicopters, insisting there had only been one, which had been inspecting military facilities. Paz Barnica censured his Nicaraguan counterpart, Miguel D'Escoto, for saying almost joyfully that one of the helicopters had been downed. In addition, Mr Paz Barnica termed evil the assertion that the tail of the aircraft bore the words "U.S. Army Commander" to imply it was a U.S. Armed Forces' aircraft. Would you care to comment on this statement by Mr Paz Barnica?

[D'Escoto] As we have already stated, two helicopters overflew the same part of our territory at the same time. Only one of them was downed. I don't know who Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica is criticizing when he terms this evil. I don't really understand what is evil about this; perhaps having put this inscription on the tail of the aircraft? Because it is obvious that the inscription is there. Many of you have been to the place and have seen that the aircraft's inscription says "U.S. Army." Below this it says "Material Command." It has a seal. We did not put it there. There is no seal from any other (?country). Who was evil? The person who put that inscription there or perhaps the person who took the photograph? [laughs softly] I don't understand. Frankly, poor Edgardo is a bit confused and desperate. I understand his nervousness in the face of this situation; it is quite justified.

[Question indistinct]

[D'Escoto] Yes. I would not really say that on Costa Rica's side, but the United States is pursuing a policy that allows it to present itself to the world, as it did -- and some of you may remember this -- in 1907, in an effort to somewhat justify what would follow, which began with the infamous [words indistinct]. That is how [words indistinct] Trying to create the international image that Nicaragua is the problem. This is the practice of an idea that dates back to the Romans: Divide and conquer. So they are trying to divide the Central American family.

Some government officials today are more susceptible to U.S. pressure. Honduras is a case in point. They are doing the same thing in Costa Rica, but I trust they will not obtain the same results there because they are clearly going against the political will expressed by President Monge, who has declared neutrality and his intention to defend and maintain that neutrality. Despite the obvious penetration that the CIA has already managed inside Costa Rica -- in the media and among certain government and Rural Guard officials, etc -- I do not think this will advance any further.

We are not and we do not want to be [word indistinct] enemies of the United States for the mere fact that we have defended and will continue to defend with all our means [words indistinct] international laws [words indistinct] defending our territorial integrity and our sovereignty. We say that despite what the U.S. President and people believe, Nicaragua is in fact constructing the first true democracy in its history, -- something that could never have been achieved during that very prolonged period of time when the United States [words indistinct] control of the Republic of Nicaragua.

We reiterated again [words indistinct] our willingness to normalize our relations with the United States, and we presented as proof of that [words indistinct] the fact that we have presented a very complete and detailed proposal of a treaty. It contemplates the possibility of a guarantor state and mechanisms for verification of compliance.

We have given those to the United States in writing and we talked about them with every emissary that President Reagan has ever sent to Nicaragua, and yet the President -- who must know, who certainly knows about this -- decided last night to ignore it and to say that it is the United States which has sent a proposal [words indistinct] fact that we are the only ones who have presented one or even cared to.

[Question] Do you believe that the minings of the Nicaraguan harbors will continue?

[D'Escoto, in English] We had [words indistinct] another incident recently [words indistinct] when a fishing boat hit a mine and sank. [Words indistinct] was evidence of Piranha boats working in the area 1 hour before the [words indistinct] happened at 0900 in the morning and [words indistinct] operate from a mother vessel that belongs to the United States.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, does that mean that as long as President Ronald Reagan continues as President of the United States there will be no possibility of reaching an agreement with Nicaragua?

[D'Escoto] I would like to think that there is always the possibility that he will change. Perhaps he will change and will decide to correct his conduct and recognize that although the United States is evidently a very powerful nation, it will not be able to impose its will here and that if it chooses to continue the current course of action, it will have to suffer the consequences. It will be more directly repudiated and rejected than it is now as a result of his policy in Central America.

[Question indistinct]

[D'Escoto] I take this opportunity to reiterate to the United States what Commander Ortega said yesterday. We are not enemies of the United States. We do not want to be considered enemies of the United States. We want to normalize our relations with the United States. That is why we have made very concrete and detailed proposals. We want dialogue to solve the situation. That is our position.

EXPULSION OF OFFICIAL BY COSTA RICA PROTESTED

PA101927 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Nicaragua has formally and vigorously protested to Costa Rica for the unbelievable decision to declare Francisco Gutierrez, an official of our embassy in San Jose, persona non grata. In the protest sent to his counterpart Carlos Jose Gutierrez, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said that the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry is trying to justify its attitude on Gutierrez' delivery of a message issued by the government junta to the local media. Costa Rica described the Nicaraguan message that was published as a paid advertisement in the San Jose media as slanderous and false and gave Gutierrez 48 hours to leave the country.

In the protest note, Nicaragua rejected the accusations against the administrative [word indistinct] and noted that the junta message to the Costa Rican people did not slander or offend the government of that country. The Foreign Ministry note also expressed its wishes for peace with Costa Rica and alerted the Costa Rican people about tensions between the states that have been caused by foreign interests represented in the aggressive U.S. policy and that of certain Costa Rican sectors.

CONTRAS AMBUSH CORFOP VEHICLE, KILL MISKITOS

PA102214 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] The Interior Ministry has reported that a group of 70 counterrevolutionaries ambushed a CORFOP [People's Forestry Corporation] truck at the El Carao Bridge in northern Zelaya. The truck was carrying several Miskitos, three of whom were killed and two wounded. The wounded are women. The Miskitos were tortured before they were killed and the vehicle was later burned, according to the communique issued by the Interior Ministry.

AMERICANS DEMONSTRATE TO PROTEST REAGAN POLICY

PA102151 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 10 May 84

[Excerpt] U.S. citizens residing in Nicaragua today staged a demonstration in front of the U.S. Embassy to protest President Reagan's policy toward Nicaragua. For the first time in their (?history), poor Nicaraguans are receiving land and medical aid and are participating in the basic decisions that affect the nation, a document read by the demonstrators in front of the embassy's gate says. In the document they score the speech delivered last night by President Reagan, who said that here in Nicaragua we live under a policy of terror.

CASTRO MEETS PRESIDENT OF UN SUGAR ORGANIZATION

FL101330 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1223 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, received Mr Jorge (Soregueitia), president of the UN Sugar Organization. During the meeting, [words indistinct] the principal matters to be discussed in the third round of negotiations for the adoption of a new international sugar agreement, which will be held in Geneva this June.

President Fidel Castro explained the basic elements of the Cuban sugar policy in relation to the discussion and adoption of a new agreement. During the interview, which was held in a cordial, friendly atmosphere, there was an exchange of views on the international economic situation, with special attention given to agriculture. Minister of Foreign Trade Ricardo Cabrizas was present at the meeting.

CASTRO ATTENDS SIGNING OF PROTOCOL WITH GDR

FL101147 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, was present at the final protocol signing ceremony for the 12th session of the Cuba-GDR Joint Committee for Economic and Technical and Scientific Cooperation in Havana. Gerhard Weiss, deputy chairman of the GDR's Council of Ministers, and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of Cuba's Councils of State and Ministers, both of whom head their respective delegations, signed the document at Cubanacan's Hall of Protocols.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez said the document summarizes the activities the Cuban and GDR workers have carried out during the period. He added that cooperation between both nations now has a greater future. The Cuban leader commented on the friendship between the two nations, similarity of principles, and the strengthening of joint relations, made evident by the friendship between Fidel and Erich Honecker. Gerhard Weiss thanked Fidel Castro for attending the ceremony. Weiss said he would be able to tell Erich Honecker, secretary general of the Socialist Party of Germany [SED], that good results have been reached.

Before the protocol ceremony, another ceremony was held to present to Gerhard Weiss the Order of Solidarity of Cuba's Council of State for extraordinary merit in achieving solidarity between the two nations and on the occasion of his 65th birthday.

NO DECISION ON OLYMPIC PARTICIPATION MADE

PA101805 Paris AFP in Spanish 1748 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Havana, 10 May (AFP) -- A government source today announced that "Cuba has not adopted any decision" regarding its participation in the coming Olympic Games. The source added, however, that Cuba wants to "reiterate its concern over the climate in which the games are being organized," which "is not one of sound competition." The source said that the date has not yet been set for the meeting in which the Cuban Olympic Committee will adopt a decision on the matter and that "our athletes continue with their training."

Bulgaria, GDR Will Not Attend

PA102258 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Bulgaria's National Olympic Committee has issued a declaration indicating that it will not attend the 23d Olympic Games to be held in Los Angeles from 28 July to 12 August. The statement says that ranking U.S. Government officials have constantly violated the Olympic Charter and that they have offered no guarantees for the safety of the Bulgarian athletes during their stay in Los Angeles. The official note of the Bulgarian Olympic Committee states that, in view of the circumstances, the Los Angeles Olympic Games will not attain their main objective: to be a true celebration of youth that might contribute to establishment of solidarity and friendship between all the peoples of the world.

The USSR Olympic Committee unanimously agreed not to send a delegation to the Los Angeles games in view of the intense campaign that is underway in the United States against the athletes from the socialist nations.

The GDR Olympic Committee released an official communique stating that it will not send a delegation to the Los Angeles games because of the campaign unleashed in Los Angeles against the athletes of the socialist nations. The statement issued by the GDR Olympic Committee notes that adequate conditions have not been created for the participation of German youths in Los Angeles in the face of activities of the extreme right and terrorist groups.

ALARCON ACCUSES U.S. OF AGGRESSION IN C.A.

FL102332 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] In Cali, Columbia, Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon has said that President Reagan is an aggressor who has brought the world to the brink of war and he is continuing along that path. Alarcon is participating in a forum on information and sovereignty in Latin America. He told reporters that the only country that has invaded Central American countries and has traditionally subverted their political, economic, and social processes is the United States. The Cuban vice foreign minister reiterated our country's support of the Contadora Group's peace measures.

More on Charges

PA101716 Paris AFP in Spanish 1554 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Cali, Colombia, 10 May (AFP) -- Ricardo Alarcon, Cuba's vice foreign minister, today criticized U.S. President Ronald Reagan here and accused him of being ill-informed about Latin America's problems. Alarcon is here to participate in a forum on information and sovereignty in Latin America. In a statement to journalists, the Cuban diplomat accused Reagan of being "an aggressor who has put the world on the verge of war." According to Alarcon, Reagan "continues along this path."

"The one responsible for mining the Nicaraguan ports and sending troops to occupy Honduran territory -- which today is merely a U.S. base -- is none other than the United States," Alarcon charged. He denied that there is any Soviet military presence in Central America and noted that "the only [military presence] noticed is that of the United States."

"Only the United States has invaded certain Central American countries," Alarcon noted, indicating that "only the United States has overthrown governments, like that of Guatemala in 1954, and occupied the Panama Canal."

The diplomat reiterated Cuba's support for the Contadora Group (Colombia, Panama, Mexico, and Venezuela), which seeks a political solution to the Central American crisis. He stressed that Cuba is ready to withdraw "the very small number of personnel cooperating in the military area that it has in Nicaragua" if the United States does the same, as Contadora has suggested.

Alarcon agreed with The Hague court's request that the mining of Nicaraguan ports be brought to an end, along with any other military operations against that country. "We hope the United States accepts the court's view," Alarcon concluded.

PCC CONGRATULATES ROMANIAN CP ON ANNIVERSARY

AU101412 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 9 May 84 p 5

[Text] To the RCP Central Committee

On the occasion of your party's anniversary we convey to you most cordial congratulations on behalf of the Cuban Communist Party. We take the opportunity of the 63d anniversary of the establishment of the RCP to express our fraternal, revolutionary feelings for the Romanian Communists and for all your people. Once again we want to express the hope that your successes in building socialism will continue to increase, and the desire to strengthen our friendship in the struggle for the cause of socialism and peace in the world.

Cuban Communist Party Central Committee

1985 TRADE CONTRACTS SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

FL101350 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1223 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Plovdiv, Bulgaria -- In the city of Plovdiv Cuba and Bulgaria have signed 1985 trade contracts for a total of approximately 106 million rubles. The signed documents were exchanged on Cuba Day of the Fourth International Spring Fair of Plovdiv.

RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES DANISH PARTY OFFICIAL

FL101530 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1404 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo, has met in Havana with Kjeld Olesen, member of the executive directorate of the Danish Social Democratic Party, who is participating in the International Nordic Nations Development and Cooperation Forum. During the meeting, matters of interest to relations between Cuba and Denmark and aspects of the international situation were discussed.

RICARDO CABRIZAS RECEIVES ONTARIO TRADE OFFICIAL

FL101614 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1405 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Minister of Foreign Trade Ricardo Cabrizas has met in this capital with (Frank S. Milleren), minister of industry and trade of the provincial government of Ontario, Canada. During the meeting, trade relations between Cuba and Canada were examined, with special emphasis placed on the role played by the economic-industrial sector of Ontario in Cuba's foreign trade. The two leaders also exchanged views on the possibility of importing agricultural and food products, equipment, and semimanufactured products, and on the improvement of trading conditions.

(Frank S. Milleren), minister of industry and trade of the government of Ontario, Canada, heads that province's delegation of more than 13 firms that work intensely with the commercial sector.

JESUS MONTANE RECEIVES FINNISH BANKING OFFICIAL

FL101550 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1404 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo, has received (Urs Sunkiet), president of the Workers Savings Bank of Finland. During the meeting, various aspects of the international situation were discussed, with particular attention given to the grave situation in Central America.

MALMIERCA VISITS CONGO FOR ANNIVERSARY

FL101620 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1406 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Cuban Foreign Relations Minister Isidoro Malmierca has arrived in Brazzaville to attend the festivities of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our country and the Congo. Upon arrival in that country, Malmierca said his visit to that nation would contribute to strengthening bilateral relations and the common struggle for peace and social progress.

NO CHANGE SEEN IN C.A. POLICY IN REAGAN SPEECH

FL101334 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has again reiterated in a speech the aggressiveness of his policies when he called on Congress and the U.S. people to increase military aid to Central America. In a television and radio speech, characterized by animosity, Reagan again attacked the Soviet Union, Cuba, and Nicaragua, countries which he blamed for Central America's explosive situation. Using these arguments, Reagan substantiated his call for hurriedly giving the Salvadoran regime $61,700,000 in emergency military aid. President Reagan repeated his argument that a Washington-backed show of force in Central America is to dissuade and defend against any aggression.

Nicaragua's Ortega Critical

FL101454 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1115 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] A few hours ago, Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, inaugurated the third conference of labor ministers of the Nonaligned Movement, which will meet until next Saturday with representatives from more than 50 nations in attendance. Daniel Ortega said the meeting is taking place in the midst of an escalation of imperialist policy in the world, and gave as examples the aggressions committee against Argentina, Grenada, and Nicaragua.

Referring to the speech that President Reagan gave last night, Ortega said Reagan used only lies and absurd slander against the Sandinist revolution to justify his attitude and to try to damage the Nicaraguan image.

COSTA RICAN PRESS CITED ON WEINBERGER REMARKS

PA102302 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] San Jose newspapers today said that more than one Costa Rican official is perplexed by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's statement to the effect that the United States and Costa Rica are preparing joint military maneuvers as part of White House plans to intervene in the region. The papers added that Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge denied the statements and tied the announcement to the existing tension in relations between his country and Nicaragua as a result of recent incidents on the common border.

Monge expressed surprise over the intention that Curtin Winsor, U.S. ambassador to San Jose, attributed to the arrival in the country of military equipment that will presumably be installed on the northern border with Nicaragua. He said that 80 cars for rural use, boats, and communications equipment that arrived in Costa Rica a few days ago are part of a request made to Washington during his first trip to the United States in 1982 and which had been delayed as a result of red tape. Monge said it was a coincidence that the equipment arrived in Costa Rica precisely when tension is increasing in Central America.

MOTLEY ADMITS SUPPORT FOR NICARAGUAN CONTRAS

PA102246 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Langhorne Motley, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, has admitted to U.S. support for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups and Washington's involvement in the mining of Nicaraguan ports. Motley said that this White House policy is part of the pressure being exerted to try to make the Sandinist government change its policy. This is the first time a high-ranking U.S. Government official has openly declared that Washington supports the anti-Sandinists and the mining of ports in Nicaragua. Others have done so indirectly and have referred to these operations as part of the so-called CIA covert actions against that Central American nation.

D'AUBUISSON CLAIMS VICTORY IN SALVADOR VOTING

PA110034 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Roberto D'Aubuisson, the presidential candidate of the extreme rightist Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA] of El Salvador, has surprised everyone by proclaiming himself the winner in last Sunday's elections. Contrary to the forecasts in El Salvador and the United States that name Christian Democrat Jose Napoleon Duarte as the winner, D'Aubuisson said that he had won the election with 52 percent of the vote.

In Washington, Republican Senator Jesse Helms has said that the State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency bought the election of Jose Napoleon Duarte. Helms said that U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador Thomas Pickering managed a covert plan to channel official U.S. funds and other financial assistance to the Christian Democrat's campaign.

NICARAGUA IDENTIFIES 2 CREWMEN OF DOWNED COPTER

PA102232 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has reported that two of the eight occupants of the Honduran helicopter gunship that was downed by the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] while flying over Potosi, in the Nicaraguan Department of Chinandega, have been identified.

The official communique affirms that, according to the documents they were carrying, one of the crewmen was Jose Napoleon Castellanos, of the Honduran Air Force Energy Department [Departamento de Energia de la Fuerza Aerea Hondurena], and the other was Oscar Armando Flores, who was apparently a technical corporal in the same military corps.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry added that in subsequent investigations it was determined that the fuselage of the helicopter downed 8 km from the port of Potosi bore the inscription U.S. Army Commander, which led to the presumption that the craft belonged to the North American Air Force. General Walter Lopez, Honduran Armed Forces commander in chief, confirmed that the heliciopter was shot down by the EPS.

HAITIAN PRESIDENT SUSPENDS POLITICAL PARTIES

FL102354 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] In Haiti, the dictator Duvalier, known as Baby Doc, has suspended all political parties, which he had been tolerating, and prohibited their publications.

7 DEAD, 50 WOUNDED IN JAMAICAN POLITICAL CLASHES

FL102348 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] In Jamaica, in recent hours, a pitched battle between paramilitary bands of the ruling Labor Party left at least 7 persons dead and 50 injured. These bands are habitually used to attack people who are opposed to Edward Seaga's government.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL ISSUES DOCUMENT ON L.A.

PA102229 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] The Socialist International Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean has issued a declaration in Lima demanding the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Grenada and rejecting the aggressive actions carried out in Central America, especially against Nicaragua. The document adds that the elections in El Salvador will not resolve the armed conflict in that country, as the elections were not a truly consult the public. The document endorses the need to seek negotiated political solutions to the Central American crisis through the Contadora Group's efforts.

The declaration issued by the committee calls for a return of Uruguayan exiles to their country, as well as for the holding of truly democratic elections. The document also reasserts that organization's solidarity with the Chilean pople and endorses the national protest drive that will be staged Friday by the forces opposed to Augusto Pinochet's regime.

Later, the document notes that in order to review Haiti's situation, the Socialist International will soon call a meeting at which all the democratic forces struggling for that country's freedom will be able to participate. Haiti is currently the victim of one of the fiercest dictatorships in the world.

HAITI

DUVALIER BANS ALL OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES

FL101156 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Haiti's President Jean-Claude Duvalier has outlawed all Haitian political parties except his own. A communique published in yesterday's edition of the government newspaper announced the ban effective immediately. The order also bans political pamphlets and states that all other publications must have prior approval of the government.

ST MARTIN EXPELLING PLOTTERS TO PUERTO RICO

NC091206 Paris AFP in English 1148 GMT 9 May 84

[Text] Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, May 9 (AFP) -- About 40 opponents of the Haitian regime of President Jean-Claude Duvalier have been arrested on the island of Saint Martin, in the Leeward Group, reliable sources said here today. They had been training in an isolated part of Saint Martin for an attack on the Haitian regime, the sources said, adding that U.S.-made weapons were found. The arrests were made on the French side of the island, which is jointly administered by France and the Netherlands.

About 15 of the men have already been expelled to the U.S.-run island of Puerto Rico and the others, including Bernard Sansaricq, who led an abortive landing on the Ile De La Tortue off north-west Haiti in January, 1982, will soon follow, according to the sources.

The arrests last Thursday appeared to follow betrayal of the group by one of its former members.

JAMAICA

UNEASY CALM IN KINGSTON AFTER POLITICAL VIOLENCE

FL102016 Bridgetown CANA in English 1720 GMT 10 May 84

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 10 (CANA) -- Western Kingston was relatively quiet last night and an uneasy calm continued to hang over the volatile area today following two days of apparently politically inspired gun battles that left at least seven people dead and several others injured, police sources said. Scores of people, the GLEANER newspaper reported today, have fled a section known as Rema, which was worst affected by the violence.

According to the official Police Information Centre (PIC), one fire was reported in the area last night in which an apartment was burnt, but there were no reports of the clashes that had gripped the area throughout Tuesday and yesterday.

The fighting is reportedly between rival gang elements from the Jamaica Labour Party stronghold of Tivoli Gardens, which is part of the constituency of Prime Minister Edward Seaga, and Rema, an area in the nearby Wilton Gardens. There have also been exchanges between the warring factions and the police.

The disturbance erupted, according to reports here, because Rema gang members, disenchanted with the JLP, attempted to forge an alliance with elements from nearby Arnett Gardens, known to locals as Concrete Jungle, a stronghold of the opposition People's National Party (PNP).

Tivoli gunmen, with high-powered weapons, crossed into Rema Tuesday, according to the CLEANER paper, demanding to know "where are the rats."

Several houses have either been burnt in the area or wrecked, according to news reports. Yesterday afternoon, up to 60 people from Rema had to take refuge in the Denham Town police station, also in the western Kingston region, because of the violence.

The police engaged gunmen in a two hour battle during the afternoon, the PIC said. A police detachment came under attack in Denham Town from about 30 gunmen, and they returned the fire, the police report added. No one was injured in the battle, but after the exchange of fire for about two hours, the men escaped leaving behind a Thompson submachine gun containing 20 rounds of ammunition, PIC said.

Portia Simpson, a PNP spokesman for the area, has in a statement urged an end to the "senseless violence." She also appealed to the police to redouble their efforts to protect the lives and property of people in the area, especially women, children, and the elderly.

GLASSPOLE'S THRONE SPEECH CITES ECONOMIC STEPS

FL102252 Bridgetown CANA in English 2215 GMT 10 May 84

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 10 (CANA) -- The Jamaica Government promised today to increase the national minimum wage, grant tax concessions to low income earners and launch a massive food aid programme mainly for the poor to help cushion effects of stringent economic measures. The promise was given at today's state opening of Parliament by the Governor General, Sir Florizel Glasspole, who said that details of the programmes would be released by Prime Minister Edward Seaga when he presents the 1984-85 budget later this month.

In exchange for a 180 million U.S. dollar loan Jamaica is seeking from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), government, in an austere package, has introduced a tight credit regime, promised to cut back spending to bring a fiscal deficit of nearly 16 per cent to single digit this year while the local currency has been devalued by more than 50 per cent since last November.

Under the weight of the programme prices have rocked far beyond the pace of wages and living standards have begun to drop, economists say.

In the traditional speech from the throne, Sir Florizel said that the government's measures were beginning to work, adding that if "all the bitter medicine" was taken now then the social costs will not be without significant fruits. However, he said, the government will take the three specific steps "to help those who need help most."

The minimum wage here is presently 30 dollars (1 Jca dollar; 25 cents U.S.) weekly, and there have been calls here by trade unions and other groups for an urgent icrease, which Deputy Prime Minister Hugh Shearer recently hinted would be granted. No figure was given, but Shearer said that the government was in favour of a minimum wage for household helpers and one for other category of employees.

In the wider issue, Glasspole said that the government recognised that there will be substantial pressure for hikes in negotiations this year, but warned that "great caution must be exercised in both private and public sector demands lest the advantages now secured by a competitive rate of exchange be cancelled out."

If this were to happen, he said, the social cost of the devaluation remain and the economic benefit of the "greater export earnings and employment would disappear."

The issue of tax reform has been on the agenda here for several years, and the Seaga government has promised a comprehensive reassessment.

Apparently the government will not be able to bring that package this year and promised instead to "offer relief to lower income categories."

Additionally, the governor general said, the government would "launch the most massive food aid programme in the country's history to protect all nutritionally at-risk persons, children, pregnant and nursing mothers, and the indigent." The shape of the programme was not disclosed, but informed U.S. officials said here this week that Washington, not wishing to see the kind of social discontent that erupted recently in the Dominican Republic, would seek to help Jamaica. The U.S. was in discussions with the Seaga government on possible increase in food aid to the island, the officials said.

Though not up-beat as in the past, the throne speech rung with a confidence for Jamaica's future, and echoed remarks by Prime Minister Seaga that a turn around had taken place in the Jamaican economy over the past three years in all areas, except in foreign reserves. Said Glasspole: "Positive movement has been recorded for every major indicator except the rebuilding of the foreign exchange reserves which have not shown improvement, but further decline. It is the continuing struggle to halt the decline in foreign exchange reserves which (is) the basis for much of the bitter medicine... prescribed."

MANLEY PROPOSES PLAN TO KEEP SUGAR PLANTS OPEN

FL102116 Bridgetown CANA in English 1655 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 10 (CANA) -- Opposition People's National Party leader, Michael Manley, has suggested an ownership structure, involving private sector investors, workers, and cane farmers to keep open three sugar factories which the Jamaica Government plans to close at the end of the current crop. The government said the three factories, among six operated by the National Sugar Company, were uneconomic and were to be closed in a cost-saving exercise. Several hundred people will lose their jobs when the factories are shut down after the crop closes in June.

Manley, speaking in a small town in the parish of Trelawny this week, pitched his remarks at the Long Pond Factory there, and said that the ownership structure he proposed could work. Private investors, employees, and cane farmers who supply the factory would share the equity, he suggested.

The PNP leader said that his information suggested that Long Pond Sugar Factory could be made viable and as a result there was no need to close it. Manley said further that even if the government did not think the factory could be viable, it had the responsibility first to sit down with the directors, workers, and the farmers and work out a plan for the orderly development of alternative economic activity in the area.

He said that, instead, the government has gone ahead and announced the closure of the factory, thus creating a crisis "and now everyone is running around trying to pick up pieces." Saying he did not think there was any chance of the government being persuaded to change its minds and keep the factory open, Manley then put forward the mixed ownership structure as the only way to keep the factory going.